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TRADE ROGUERIES.

WHETHER or not eels ever get so "used" to being skinned alive as to be insensible to pain, it seems certain that the British public has become so accustomed to be cheated that it has become indifferent, or callous, or hopeless, under the operation. Said public is fleeced in every possible form, and yet patiently submits to the shearing. It matters little of what, or where, a purchase is made: the buyer is sure to be cheated. The *quality* of goods is first deteriorated by adulteration; and then the public is further robbed, by means of false weights and measures, in respect to *quantity*. And this as regards almost every article that enters into the general consumption of the people. Our bread is not always made of flour; our tea is but in a limited sense the product of the Flowery Land; our sugar is not the genuine juice of the cane, nor our wine of the grape; our beer is compounded of other elements besides malt, hops, and pure water; our coffee is composed in a greater degree of chicory and burnt horsebeans than of the Mocha berry; brickdust and other abominations are mingled with our spices; and even the elements of adulteration are adulterated. If such things as beef and vegetables cannot be sophisticated, an inferior article is foisted upon us in lieu of the genuine one for which we are made to pay. Nor if, being food-poisoned, we go to the physician for an antidote, are we

necessarily made secure by the use of his prescription, for the very druggist may be

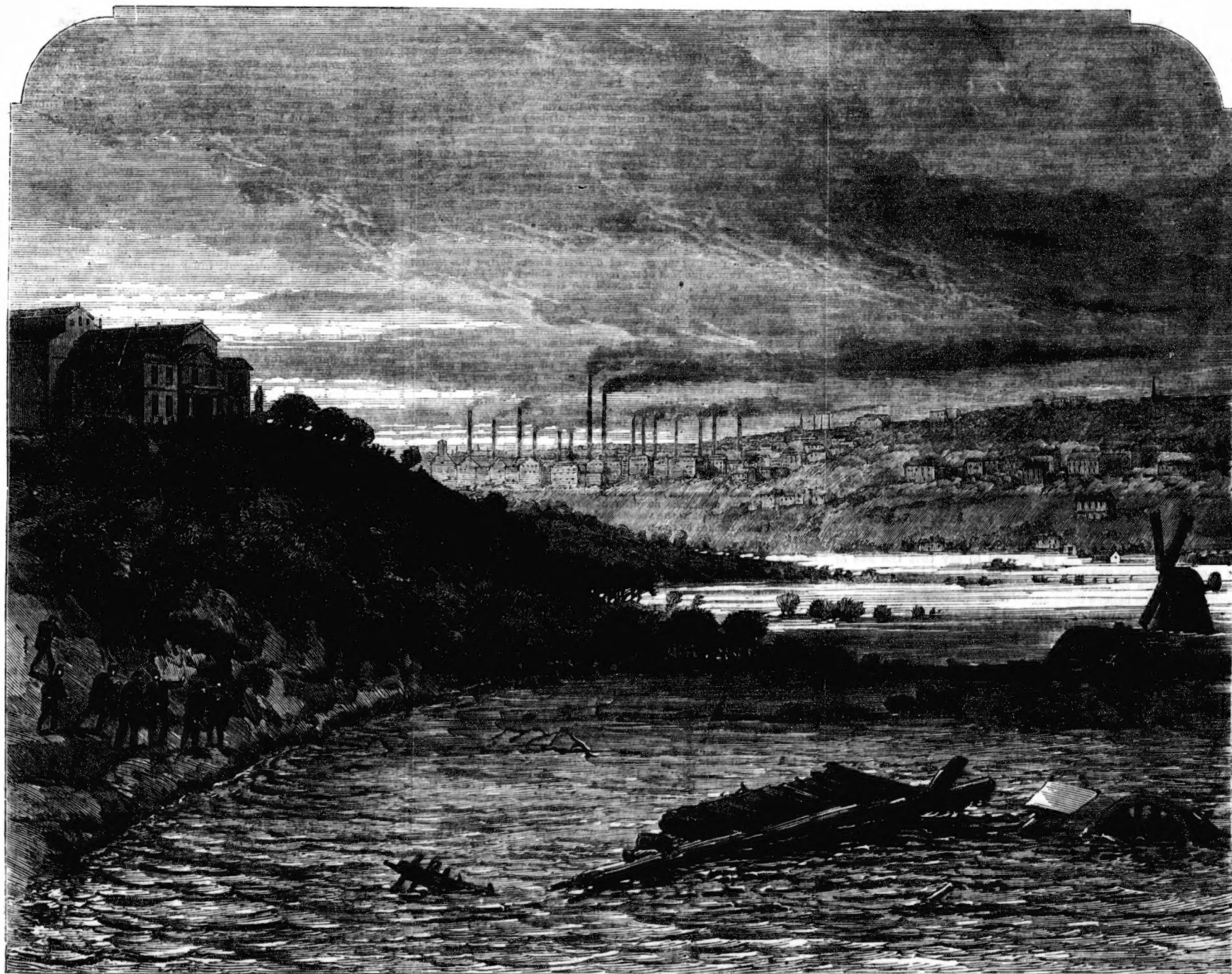
. cheating the sick of a few last gasps, as he sits
To pestle a poison'd poison behind his crimson lights.

We are both poisoned and robbed; and, seemingly, cannot help ourselves.

Nor are we much—if any—better off as regards the clothes we wear, the houses we live in, and the implements we use. Our best broadcloth is often but "shoddy" in disguise; our silks, our linens, and our woollens are mingled with cotton (it is still profitable to do so, though not so much so, perhaps, as it was once); our cutlery has become a by-word in the world; and the materials of which our dwellings are constructed are often old, fusty, rotten, vermin-infested rubbish. In short, things have come to such a pass, that to say a thing is of British manufacture is to pronounce its condemnation. A "Sheffield whittle," Sir Walter Scott tells us, was an implement famous for its good quality even so early as the time of Cœur de Lion; but what backwoodsman cares to handle such a tool nowadays? What once was our pride, has now become our shame; what once gained us national honour, now only yields us reproach. Our goods are almost invariably faulty in quality or deficient in quantity, and are in proportionably bad odour among other peoples.

This state of things is not of recent origin. It has been growing worse and worse from year to year. The researches of Dr. Hassall and others showed that adulteration was practised on all hands years ago; and any change that has taken place since, has not been in the direction of honesty. Our tradesmen still pollute their goods by vile intermixtures; they still cheat their customers by using light weights and short measures. Their practices have been exposed, and preached against, and denounced times out of number. But to no avail; general exposures do not shame them; to denounce them in the mass recalls no individual to the paths of rectitude. The individual rogues grow more and more, both in numbers and audacity, under cover of the general corruption that prevails. And so injured are the people to the system that they heed it not, nor seek to rectify it. The poor suffer most, and the poor are most indifferent. Of all the districts of London, the inhabitants of Lambeth are, perhaps, most exposed to the depredations of dishonest tradesmen; and yet the people of Lambeth the other evening laughed at Mr. Thomas Hughes for inveighing against the practices under which they suffer so much. They are so accustomed to wrong that they see in it only elements of mirth. Roguery has little to fear among such a community.

But can nothing be done to eradicate this canker of universal dishonesty? Men would not tamely submit to be



GREAT FLOODS IN THE NORTH: SCENE AT THE CRESCENT, SALFORD.

poisoned and robbed as the British public is robbed and poisoned, were detection and punishment easily attainable. It is because the individual rogue can shelter himself under general practices that the mischief goes on unchecked. Were persons, and not merely classes, denounced and exposed, we believe the evil would be speedily checked. If, when a roguish tradesman has been once detected, all men could point at him the finger of scorn, and say, "That is the man!" dishonest tradesmen would become less plentiful than they are now. The defects of our existing system of dealing with such rogues are that the stain does not stick to them, and that in such a large city as this but few people, comparatively, can know that the rogue has been found out. If, however, we were to adopt the French mode of making the cheat publish his own wrong-doing, and that, too, on the spot—his own premises—where the dishonest act had been committed, we should probably turn most rogues from the evil of their ways. In Paris a tradesman convicted of selling adulterated articles is sentenced not only to a fine, but also to post up in a part of his shop, where it can be read by all who enter it, an official record of his conviction, of the date at which it took place, of the particulars of the offence, and of the penalty imposed—i.e., both the amount of the fine and the number of months during which he is required to post this notice. No evasion is allowed. The report is full and officially drawn up and signed. It is perfectly legible, and nailed up in the most conspicuous part of the shop—say for six or twelve months. The police are charged to see that it is not removed or covered. Let a similar system be adopted in England, and we are persuaded we should speedily have a reformation in the habits of our traders of all sorts and ranks. None but rogues could object to the plan; no honest tradesman—if there be such a being extant—would have occasion to fear; and if the public did not get their due, they would at least know who cheated them.

GREAT FLOODS IN THE NORTH.

ANOTHER of the great calamities in the presence of which human ingenuity and courage are vain has fallen upon two of our northern counties. No considerable portions of Lancashire and Yorkshire have been swept by a flood which will render long memorable the too abundant rains of 1866. This was the result of heavy rains which fell last week.

The first note of alarm came from Manchester. The Irwell, the channel of which is exceedingly confined, and the current of which is often hardly perceptible, became a rushing torrent, and rose to a height which reminded those who witnessed it of the great Holmfirth catastrophe of 1852. The lower floors of the warehouses were inundated. Factories had to stop work. Near the Victoria Bridge, familiar to the most hasty visitors of Cottonopolis, merchants and machine-makers lost timber and machinery by the violence of the waters, while the new Waterloo Bridge was menaced by barrels and hog-heads which floated down the stream mingled with the bodies of drowned horses. The Medlock, another stream at Manchester, also overflowed its banks, and the water did great damage both in private houses and places of business. But the worst and most distressing results of the flood were at Salford and Broughton. Opposite a place called The Crescent, at Salford, there is a large expanse of low ground, and the floods converted the whole 500 or 600 acres into a lake. The gardener of Peel Park found his house so inundated and surrounded that it was necessary to obtain a boat to convey his family to a place of safety. Nothing, indeed, was visible except the trees in the park and some reservoir embankments adjacent. One remarkable incident in this neighbourhood was the floating towards The Crescent down the river of a great wooden structure, which proved to be the bridge leading to Broughton racecourse. At a place called Wallness, a little lower down the stream, the police had to enter a number of houses by breaking through the slate roofs in order to rescue the water-logged inhabitants; and still further down the course of the river, at Lower Broughton, the horrors of the scene were intensified and multiplied. The water rose rapidly, and during the forenoon of Friday week all sorts of vehicles were called into requisition for the rescue of poor shivering and shuddering people, who had to leave all their little possessions on risk behind, and escape for their lives. As the day advanced vehicles became useless, and boats had to be employed. Then were removed persons who to the last it had been hoped need not be disturbed. Even women not risen from their confinement had to be conveyed away—sick, wet, and half frozen. All who were rescued were taken, however, to as comfortable quarters as could be secured for them. The basement of the Townhall was appropriated to their use. Fires were lit, beds were made, cooking arrangements were extemporised; while numerous other refugees opened their friendly doors. The Mayor and Corporation of Salford were especially active and charitable, and not fewer than 200 poor inhabitants of Lower Broughton were, by five o'clock in the afternoon, provided for at the Townhall.

In Leeds a very melancholy catastrophe occurred on Saturday morning. Between twenty and thirty persons were standing on a landing near Leeds bridge, watching the wreck in the river at that point, when it suddenly gave way, precipitating the whole of them into the stream. Assistance was promptly at hand, and many were rescued, but others unfortunately were drowned. It was at first believed that ten or twelve had thus been deprived of life; but, melancholy as the calamity is, we are glad to say that the loss of life is not so great as was supposed. One body has been recovered, and five girls are reported missing. Having made most careful inquiry, the police believe there are no other persons missing. At Dewsbury seven lives were also sacrificed by the flood; at Ripponden, near Halifax, four persons were drowned by the washing away of a bridge; and other fatal accidents are reported at Manchester, where there are three lives lost; at Preston, two; at Otley, one; and at Wakefield, two. All the accounts concur in stating that the flood is one of the most disastrous that has visited the district within living memory. In all cases the loss of property was enormous. The condition of a large reservoir at the head of the Black Brook Valley, in Calder-vale, excited great alarm, as the water was actually breaking over the top of the dam, and the backing of the embankment cracked in several places. Happily, owing to the subsiding of the storm, the danger was removed.

An accident happened to the one o'clock train from Darlington to Tebay, near Kirkby Stephen, Westmorland. The immense quantity of rain which had fallen had washed away the ballast in which the sleepers were embedded about a mile beyond Warcop station, and the passing of the train forced them from their position, dislocating the rails. The engine and several passenger carriages at once left the line and were projected against an embankment. Strange to say, neither the engine-driver, nor the stoker, nor any of the passengers were injured beyond a severe shaking, the train fortunately not having attained its speed at the time of the accident. Assistance was telegraphed for, and the line was repaired as soon as possible, though a temporary stoppage of traffic was occasioned. The country is very mountainous, and had the train been on some of the more elevated portions of the line at the time of the accident, the results must have been truly appalling.

The flood in the Wakefield district has turned out to be the heaviest and most disastrous ever known. The waters continued to

rise with alarming rapidity until three o'clock on Saturday morning, about which hour the flood turned and began to subside. The height reached was 2 ft. ½ in. more than any on record. The town was in a state of intense excitement and perturbation all Friday night. In many quarters of the town access to the dwellings was impossible. On Westgate-common any mode of conveyance was prohibited after eight o'clock, as the drains had fallen in and several carts and cabs had been upset in consequence. The more the nature of the flood becomes known, the more disastrous does it appear. Miles upon miles of land have been inundated, and the damage done is at present incalculable. Fifty thousand pounds is but a moderate computation for the loss occasioned in Wakefield alone; and at the river, towards and above Horbury and down towards Stanley, the flood's course is marked by equal devastation. The district which has suffered such an awful visitation is a thickly-populated one, and the loss will fall heavily upon a large number of people. Collieries have been flooded, vessels have been stranded, live stock carried off from farms, and hedges, walls, and such landmarks destroyed—in fact, all manner of things, all trades, and innumerable private individuals have become participants in the general ruin. There is not one among the many manufacturing standing on the brink of the river in which serious and extensive damage has not been inflicted upon the machinery, and in which, on Saturday at all events, work did not cease, in several instances not to be resumed for weeks. Railway communication has been considerably obstructed between Wakefield and Manchester, Barnsley, London, and other places in consequence of the flooding of tunnels or giving way of embankments; and the wires of the several telegraph companies have also suffered.

Except the great flood of 1842, Derby has not had so great a flood since the year 1824. For some days the river had been very high, and on Friday week it was observed to rise rapidly. Shortly afterwards a terrific storm broke over the neighbourhood, and doubtless very heavy rain must have fallen in Derbyshire, as during the night the Derwent had again swollen exceedingly. Thousands of acres of water spread from towards Little Eaton over the whole of Chester-green, and past the Midland Railway goods station, on to the Nottingham-road as far as the new maltings of Mr. George Wheelodon and Mr. Thos. Clarke. It is six years since Chester-green was flooded before, but that was only a small affair, compared with the present one. In North Derbyshire the flood was very great. The water came roaring down the Peak Hills, overflowing the brooks and streams, and then emptying itself into the Derwent, the Wye, and the Amber. Along various parts of the Midland line of railway the water found its way, but not sufficient to impede the traffic. The sight, however, to the travellers on the North Midland Railway was an unusual one, as far as the eye could reach being one sheet of water. In South Derbyshire the Trent overflowed its banks at Willington, Swarkestone, Shardlow, King's Mills, and other places, and the damage done was considerable. Happily, we do not hear of any loss of life in this quarter.

HISTORY OF A MARSHAL OF FRANCE.—A shoeing-smith of Dijon, M. Vaillant, having written to the Marshal of France of the same name to know if they were related, the latter has replied in an interesting letter giving such particulars as he knows of his ancestry, in order to assist the writer in his researches. After referring to his deceased parents, the Marshal concludes thus:—I entered the Polytechnic School at sixteen, and on leaving it joined the corps of Engineers. The promotion from which I experienced the greatest pleasure in the whole course of my career was that of corporal at the school. I went through the Russian campaign and that of 1815. I was made prisoner at the end of 1813. I was at Waterloo, and wounded in the defence of Paris in 1815. I had my leg laid open by a shell at the siege of Algiers, in 1830. My superiors said they were well satisfied with me at the siege of Antwerp, in 1832. The Emperor told me that he was pleased with me at that of Rome. Such, Sir, is my history nearly complete. If you find in all that any proof of community of origin between your family and mine I shall be well pleased.

FRENCH MAIL STEAM-SHIPS.—The steam-fleet of the Messageries Impériales at present consists of sixty-six ships, fifteen of which are employed in conducting the mail service between Marseilles and countries reached by way of the Indian Ocean; twelve of these ships are employed in the latter sea, and three in the Mediterranean. Six distinct routes are performed by these steamers, two being main lines—i.e., from Marseilles to Hong-Kong, and Marseilles to Mauritius; and four branch lines—i.e., from Point de Galle to Calcutta, from Hong-Kong to Shanghai, from Shanghai to Japan, and from Singapore to Batavia. They are all monthly services, and are performed at a contract speed of nine knots per hour, which was, however, exceeded during the year 1865 in the Mediterranean by from one to two knots, and in the Indian Ocean by about three-fourths of a knot per hour. When forthcoming changes occur in the conduct of our own Indian Ocean postal services, it is possible that the packets of the Messageries Impériales used on their China route may be subsidised to carry the English mails to and from Suez or Galle to Hong-Kong and other China ports.

THE LATE GALE.—Some furious gales blew on the east coast of England on the 17th and 18th inst., and it is feared that a large number of lives have perished in mid-ocean before any succour could possibly reach the distressed sailors from the shore. However, it is gratifying to find that the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution and the rocket apparatus have done good service in rescuing the crews of different wrecks during the fearful storms. The Thurso life-boat of the institution, while it was blowing hard, with showers of snow, brought ashore the crew of five men from the schooner Anna Bervie, of Lerwick, which had brought up in the bay with sails split. The Mundesley old life-boat went to the rescue of the crews of four stranded vessels, and succeeded in saving the lives of nine men and two women from the rigging, one man and one boy having unfortunately perished by being washed overboard by the heavy seas as their vessel drove ashore. The Portrush life-boat belonging to the National Life-boat Institution put off and rendered efficient assistance to the endangered barque Coriven, of Londonderry; and also brought ashore the crew of six men from the schooner Margaret Caldwell, of Portrush. The Redcar old life-boat rescued the crew of the brig Whitburn, of Middlesbrough, which had gone on the rocks off Redcar. The Bacton life-boat of the National Life-boat Institution was the means of rescuing the crew of four men of the schooner Swann, of Goole, who had taken to the rigging of their vessel, which had sunk on a sandbank off Bacton. The Tynemouth life-boat (the Constance) also rendered assistance to the steamer Buda, of Leith, which was in a very dangerous position at the mouth of the Tyne. The life-boats at Ramsgate, Walmer, North Deal, Winchelsea, Eastbourne, Berwick, and Hasborough also went out with the view of rendering assistance at different wrecks; but their services were not ultimately required, as the vessels had either got out of danger or their crews had been rescued by the rocket apparatus or other means.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.—The Madrid correspondent of the *Independence Belge*, writing on the 13th, says that the Duchess de Montpensier has just had an interview with the Queen of Spain, for the purpose of warning her of the dangers to the dynasty which must result from the present system of government. "Her Royal Highness," continues the correspondent, "urged her Majesty, with much earnestness, to make concessions and rally round her the Liberal element, adding that if she did not do so, the day of the catastrophe would not be far distant, and that it would drag everything down with it: the person of the Queen, her dynasty, and all the Royal family. By making concessions in time calculated to lead to sincere reconciliation with the Liberal party, her enemies would become less numerous; and if some few took up a threatening attitude, she would see devoted defenders range themselves around her. The Infanta added that her husband, the Duke de Montpensier, would be the first to mount his horse to defend the constitutional throne of the Queen. Her Majesty replied to the Duchess that her Royal Highness could not possibly have a correct idea of the state of Spain; that she had adopted a policy which gave excellent results; that that policy was the only one that would save her Crown, her dynasty, and the interest and rights of all her family; that she was resolved on no account to modify in any way that policy. The Queen added:—"The revolution has declared war against me to the death. Well, I, on my side, declare war against the revolution; we shall see which of the two will conquer. To abandon at the moment of the struggle the policy of resistance upon which I have entered, and make concessions, would be my ruin, and I have before my eyes the example of my cousin, the King of Naples, who, after having given way to the revolution and granted all the concessions asked of him, was nevertheless compelled to descend from his throne and go into exile. I am thoroughly determined not to follow his example; I will resist, therefore, and I am firmly resolved to vanquish or die." "A ministerial crisis," says the *Progres* of Lyons, "has just taken place at Madrid; but, fortunately—or the contrary, if preferred—it lasted only five hours, and terminated by the maintenance of the *status quo*. The cause of this incident was so singular as to be worth mentioning. The Queen, it appears, was anxious to confer the dignity of Commander of the Order of Charles III. on a tenor singer at one of the theatres; but Marshal Narvaez, probably not appreciating the value of the services which this nomination was to reward, refused in the most formal manner to sign the decree and offered his resignation. The Queen, after a stout resistance, ended by giving way; and the subject of the dispute is not at present to receive the honour intended for him."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

It is believed in Paris that the commission on the reorganisation of the French army have settled their report, and the public are looking anxiously for its publication, which, it is said, will take place without loss of time. The Emperor, it appears, has invented a new breech-loading rifled four-pounder gun. It is extremely light, and is ordered to be supplied to the army in large numbers.

Public attention, however, has been diverted for the moment from the question of army reorganisation to that of naval tactics by a paper on the latter subject in the new number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. The authorship of the paper is attributed to the Prince de Joinville. His Royal Highness takes as the ground of his remarks the battle of Lissa, all the circumstances connected with which he fully and clearly points out, and arrives at the conclusion that ships and material are of little avail without cool and daring sailors and experienced officers.

SPAIN.

The delightfully-quiet condition of Spain may be understood from an announcement which a semi-official French paper makes—namely, that Narvaez has posted large bodies of troops at the railway stations in Madrid in order that they may be ready to start to any part of the kingdom at a moment's notice.

Intelligence has been received in Madrid confirming the news that the South American Republics at war with Spain have accepted the mediation of France and England.

It is asserted that the Spanish Government has addressed representations to the Cabinet of Brussels relative to the Spanish refugees residing in that capital, declaring them to be engaged in the most open intrigues with a view to disturb public order in Spain.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch Chambers were opened on Monday. The King was not present. The speech was read by the Minister of Justice, and recommended reciprocal confidence, mutual forbearance, and strict observance of the Constitution. The new elections are said to have given a small majority to the Government.

ITALY.

The King of Italy, after a very satisfactory tour through the Venetian provinces, returned to Florence on Wednesday, and was received with great rejoicing. Admiral Persano's trial will commence on the 1st of December.

PRUSSIA.

In the Chamber of Deputies, the Finance Minister brought in a bill regulating the pensions and allowances to the leaders of the Prussian army during the late war. The Minister also asked that 1,500,000 thalers might be set apart out of the war indemnities for disposal by his Majesty the King. After a lengthened debate, the bill was referred to a special committee.

AUSTRIA.

On Monday a motion was introduced into the Lower Austrian Diet by Herr Pratobervera, proposing that a committee of eleven should be elected for the purpose of preparing the draught of an address to the Emperor. The proposed address would express the thanks of the Diet for the Imperial recognition of the patriotic attitude of the nation during the late war, give a frank exposition of the present state of the country, and represent to his Majesty the prejudicial influence of the continued suspension of the Constitution. Three members spoke against the motion.

The Hungarian Diet was opened on Monday. The following are the chief points of the Royal rescript read at the commencement of the sitting:—

The unalterable aim of the deliberations which are about to be resumed on the basis of the last Speech from the Throne is the accomplishment of the union of the different parts of the monarchy and the re-establishment of the autonomous rights of Hungary.

After adverting to the late war and the conclusion of peace, the rescript points out the necessity and urgency of a prompt settlement of internal affairs. His Majesty declares that the suspension of the deliberations of the Diet was all the more regretted by him, as, precisely at the moment of the adjournment, the sub-committee of the commission on common affairs had drawn up a project which recognised the principle of the Royal sanction, and which he considers as the basis for an understanding on the question of the discussion and treatment of common affairs. It is gratifying, adds the rescript, to find expressed in that project the sentiment that it is indispensable that the different countries composing the monarchy should remain united, and thus insure the existence of the whole monarchy. The rescript then states some general views for the deliberations which are about to commence. Before all, the unity of the army in its direction and organisation, as well as in the principles regulating the terms of service and the recruitment, must be maintained. The customs, the indirect taxes, and the State monopolies must also be regulated in accordance with uniform principles, which have yet to be laid down. A uniform treatment is not less necessary for the public debt and credit.

If (continues the Royal rescript) the Diet's deliberations result in the removal of difficulties connected with the unity of the monarchy, which must be maintained, the wishes and demands of Hungary will also be complied with by the appointment of a responsible Ministry, and by the re-establishment of the municipal autonomy.

The system of the responsibility of the Government must be established not only in Hungary, but in all parts of the monarchy. The questions of detail, as well as the modifications to be introduced into the legislation of 1848, will be settled by means of an understanding between the responsible Ministry and the Diet.

In conclusion, the rescript expresses the hope that the Diet will give its serious attention to these overtures, in order to hasten the establishment of a Constitutional organisation.

SWITZERLAND.

A bill recently laid before the Grand Council proposing the introduction of certain modifications into the Constitution has been rejected by 5172 votes against 5042 votes. The bill had the support of the Radical and Catholic members.

THE CANDIAN INSURRECTION.

The Athens journals of the 19th announce that the Cretan Assembly General has addressed a note to the foreign Ambassadors at Constantinople denying the rumour of the submission of the insurgents to the Turkish authorities. The Assembly also asks that vessels should be placed at their disposal for the removal of non-combatants from the island. The same papers publish advices from Candia, stating that neutrality is observed by the inhabitants of Sphakia, and that all persons who wish to take no part in the insurrection have taken refuge in that province. The Sphakiotes do not, however, recognise the Turkish authority, and have not laid down their arms. The greater portion of them have proceeded to other provinces where the insurrection still continues.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have advices from New York to the 9th inst. A curious state of things had obtained at Baltimore. The old commissioners had arrested and confined the new commissioners in gaol, charging them with having attempted to excite a riot. General Grant, however, came to the rescue, and succeeded in bringing about an arrangement between the two factions. The Republicans had been successful in the elections in all the States except Maryland and Delaware. In New York State, Governor Fenton (Republican) obtained a majority of 10,000 votes. General Butler and John Morrissey had been elected members of Congress.

The Fenians were still holding indignation meetings throughout the States. The acquittal of a Fenian Protestant clergyman in Canada had caused much ill-feeling among the Roman Catholic population.

MEXICO.

According to advices received at New York, the Emperor Maximilian had quitted the city of Mexico for Vera Cruz, appointing

General Bazaine as Regent. This step of the Emperor is considered in New York to be equivalent to abdication.

CANADA.

Another Fenian, John S. Levy, has been sentenced by the Court at Toronto to be hanged. The *Toronto Globe* says that the Government have resolved to commute the sentence upon Lynch and M'Mahon.

ITALY AND THE PAPACY.

The following is the text of a circular recently addressed by Baron Ricasoli to the prefects throughout Italy, and which has excited a good deal of comment:—

Florence, Nov. 15.

The definitive union of the Venetian provinces with the kingdom of Italy closes, after a lapse of twelve centuries, the era of foreign dominion in the peninsula, and puts an end to the necessity for hasty war preparations and to the reasons for restless anxiety which entailed such heavy public burdens on the citizens and such distractions by reason of the most prominent problems of civil, administrative, economical, and financial reorganisation. Italy, secure of herself, can henceforth await propitious opportunities for securing that which is still wanting to her, and mean while remain calmly self-contained and watch. It remains, indeed, still to solve the Roman question; but since the convention which regulated its political portion, the Roman question cannot and must not be a motive for agitation. The sovereignty of the Pontiff in Rome is placed, by the Convention of September, 1864, under the conditions of all other sovereignties: it must look for within itself, and find solely within itself, the grounds of existence and duration. Italy has promised France and Europe not to intervene between the Pope and the Romans, and to let this last experiment be completed as to the vitality of an ecclesiastical principality which has no parallel in the range of civil dominion (*mondo civile*) and which is in contradiction with the civil progress of these times. Italy must keep her promise, and await from the efficacy of the national principle which she represents the infallible triumph of her rights. Meanwhile all agitation having the Roman question for pretext must be discouraged, censured, hindered, or repressed, whatever characters it may assume, because neither must reason be given to suspect that Italy is disposed in any way to break her pledged faith, nor must attempts be made to induce her to break it; for in the one way and in the other gross injury and outrage would result to her. I know well that the twofold character of the Pope furnishes some persons with a ground for confounding the political with the religious question, and for troubling timorous consciences with doubts that the Italian Government desires to lessen the independence of the spiritual head of Catholicism and to offend the liberty of the Church. But your Excellency will be able to dispense these shadows. The legislative provision, the repeated declarations of the King's Government, its acts—even the most recent—plainly show that, in religious matters also, it recognised no other domination nor admits any other rule than that of liberty and law; and that in the ministers of religion it does not choose to see either privileged persons or martyrs. Assuredly, to the head of the Catholics scattered over all the world, and who form the great majority of the Italian nation, are due special guarantees that he may freely and independently exercise his spiritual ministry. The Italian Government is disposed, more than any other, to afford the most efficacious guarantees for that liberty and independence, because it is convinced more than any other that they may be granted without injury to the rights of the nation which it represents.

Now that our banner floats over Venetia it is proper that we should take thought how to strengthen all the orders of the State and to develop the elements of power and prosperity which it possesses. Italy cannot, must not, perpetually beg from Europe manufactures, culture, credit; she is bound henceforth to contribute with all her might to the common prosperity, by turning to profit the copious forces with which Providence has endowed her, and which to this hour have been wasted by the miserable condition of the country. The field of this necessary activity is open to all; from the father of a family upwards, through the administrator of a parish or a province, to the Ministry, all are bound to lend a hand to the work and to second each other's efforts according to their capability. Your Excellency will please to study to contribute to this end, on your part, by taking exact account of the moral and material conditions of your province and of what is to be done to improve it and to render it prosperous. Where the action of private persons is slow or defective, be it your study to excite it, to supplement it even, until it is reinvigorated; but do not think of substituting for it Governmental action alone, for fear of enfeebling those powers which, above all things, it is desirable to stimulate and keep alive. Be assured that you will have done much for the political education of those under your administration when, preserving your full authority, you shall have brought them to feel less the need of your interference and to have less recourse to your initiative. Either liberty delights in awakening and keeping alive in men the consciousness of their own dignity and strength, in giving efficacy to the feeling of responsibility and solidarity, in rendering the powers of the intellect and of the mind operative for the common good; or else nothing remains but to throw open the field to the vulgar ambitions and base cupidities of the boldest and most reckless. In order, then, that the State may go on prosperously and vigorously, and not absorb, nor hinder, nor in any manner disturb the productive action of its subjects, the Government must harmonise by wise ordinances the various parts of the administration, distinguish and precisely define its offices, and set over them men of probity, intelligence, and industry, who, content with obtaining an honourable and decent meed for their labour, shall take delight in efficiently discharging the duty incumbent on every citizen of a free country to co-operate toward the good of all. Now that we are free to do so, it will be proper to examine our ordinances by the light of these criteria, and to assure ourselves that they correspond with them. It is a work of necessity to have a simple, expeditious, and inexpensive legislation and administration—a work in which the Government intends to proceed cautiously, but resolutely, and for which it has need of the counsels of the best-informed functionaries, and, above all, the co-operation and aid of Parliament. The Government lays special stress on this co-operation and aid, and trusts that under the altered conditions the representatives of the nation will turn their thoughts and their efforts to the urgent questions which concern the internal arrangements of the State. No one, in fact, can fail to see how extremely urgent it is to restore the public credit; to refresh and revive the sources of our public wealth and to open new ones; to inquire what expenses are useless or superfluous and unproductive, and to reduce or abolish them; to employ the productive outlay with measure and caution, and to introduce into all the services of the State a strict spirit of economy and morality, without which it is impossible that the country shall revive and become reinvigorated. This task does not belong to the Government alone, and does not concern only the finances of the State. The communes and provinces which have finances of their own, and large powers of putting the fortunes of their citizens under contribution, must not lose sight of the influence which they may in this way exercise on the fortune of the State. And hence it is right that they proceed cautiously in the matter of impositions, and consider that it affects individuals very little whether a diminution be made in their substance by the representatives of the nation or by the resolutions of the commune or the province. And as, in the last result, disorder in the finances of the commune or the province resolves itself into disorder in those of the State, which is rich and prosperous only when private persons and companies are rich and prosperous, it is well that the desire to spend be tempered by that reflection, by the authoritative counsels of your Excellency, and by the remedies which the law provides. Nor is it less urgent to reduce the number of those millions who cannot read or write, who are a disgrace to Italy, and the most terrible condemnation of preceding Governments, since ancient and modern examples prove that the power of a people is coeval with its knowledge; and that nothing grand, nothing durable, nothing glorious, can be expected from a nation that cares not to cure itself from the leprosy of ignorance. In this matter also the communes and provinces are called upon by the law to co-operate, and they will do so the more readily if they think that the increase of culture and instruction not only contributes to the development of public wealth, but affords the best guarantee for public security, because educated minds and enlightened consciences understand that every citizen can and ought to contribute for his part to the maintenance of order—that is, to the observance of the law: not only respecting it himself, but causing it to be respected, and invoking it at need. Before this field of operation so vast, so noble, so fertile, it is to be believed that the political parties into which the Parliamentary representation has hitherto been divided will see the necessity of dissolving themselves—to become recomposed and grouped as the new conditions of the country require. There is henceforth no occasion to hasten more or less the preparations for an inevitable war, or to prescribe its limits more or less accurately, or to define its character. There can no longer be a party which has impatience for its programme, and another which has prudence. The object to-day is to govern Italy, and to administer it, so that it may be rich, potent, happy, and contribute on its own part to the increase of universal civilisation. It will be proper, then, that every political party descend into the Parliamentary arena with a complete programme of government and administration; and that, dismissing all respect of persons and suppressing all personal or municipal rancours, the representatives of the country group themselves according to their principles and their systems. Honestly employed in this way, the Parliamentary institutions will manifest all the fecundity and efficacy for good of which they are capable; and the ameliorations and reforms introduced by a candid and ample discussion will not follow the unstable fortunes of parties infinitely subdivided. To this necessary work of amelioration and reform the new provinces will contribute efficaciously, heirs as they are of that State-wisdom by which they formerly played so important a part in the Italian commonwealth. In fine, if during the last six years it was necessary, before all things, to take measures for introducing unity into the legislative and administrative arrangements, in order to make of six States a single Italy, now it is time that united Italy examine what are the ordinances best adapted for her

administration. But, in order that this examination may be profitable, it must be mature; and we must beware of confounding the opportunity of amelioration with the mania for innovation. The measures must pass through a suitable period of probation, must be studied in all their bearings and applications, in order to produce good fruit. The special knowledge your Excellency will have acquired in the exercise of your function will be of great value to this end; and you will be good enough to impart it to the Government, under the assurance that it will be appreciated, and that it will be so much the more profitable if it be corroborated, in addition to your own "observations," by those of persons who have had opportunity to study our institutions in their practical operation. Italy, in the moment of acquiring her full independence, finds herself in possession of all the instruments of liberty, and therefore of all the requisite conditions for acquiring prosperity, strength, and greatness; but these would be in vain if the efforts of her sons were not applied with alacrity towards rendering them fruitful.

Your Excellency will be sure of rightly interpreting the intentions of the Government if, not sparing the due efforts of your office, you excite and give efficacy to the endeavours of those over whom you are in authority, and make both conducive to the same end. The Minister RICASOLI.

The *Paris Moniteur du Soir* of Wednesday evening says the views propounded by Baron Ricasoli are precisely those which the Emperor has always held. Moreover, it gives the assurance that those views are likely to prevail at the Papal Court. "There is every reason to believe," says the official journal, "that the extreme Pontifical parties will not prevail, and that the Court of Rome will show itself inaccessible to influences which, under the mask of false zeal, hide intentions prejudicial to the security and dignity of the Pontifical throne."

THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

WE have received information from a trustworthy source in reference to the mission of General Sherman and Mr. Campbell to Mexico. According to this information, the reasons which have induced the United States Government to associate General Sherman with Mr. Campbell are—

First—The resolution of the United States never to recognise any Government in Mexico save the Constitutional Government presided over by Juarez.

Secondly—The Government of the United States do not propose or desire the acquisition of any part of the territory of the Mexican Republic, and will not recognise in any way the French debt.

Thirdly—They are disposed to lend their services to the Mexicans, with the object of removing local dissensions (so long as the Mexicans are ruled over by a Mexican Government, or authorities emanating from a Mexican Government), without proposing to themselves intervention in any way with the internal affairs of the country.

For these purposes Mr. Campbell will set out from New York or New Orleans in a ship of war, in order to give more importance to his mission, and will be accompanied by General Sherman in the quality of counsellor. General Sherman is authorised to so dispose of the forces of the United States by land and sea as to enable them to contribute to the re-establishment of order, especially on the frontiers, but without interfering in the internal affairs of the Republic.

General Sherman and Mr. Campbell are to go to Vera Cruz to ascertain for themselves the extent to which the evacuation of Mexico by the French troops has gone, and even to hasten it if that be possible. If the assurances which have been given to the Cabinet of Washington by that of the Tuileries are to be believed, General Sherman and Mr. Campbell will find all, or the greater part, of the French army either embarked or ready for embarkation.

If they find this to be the case, the two American Envoys will immediately proceed to the city of Mexico, where they hope to meet Juarez, for it is generally believed that the Emperor Maximilian will embark with the French army. If, however, it should be otherwise, they will go to Matamoros, and thence to Chihuahua, or to any other place where the Constitutional Government may be. General Sherman, however, will not go far into the interior of the Republic. All these measures have for their object three things—

First—To profit by the departure of the French army, so as to assure the maintenance of order in the Republic by the immediate re-establishment of the Constitutional Government there.

Secondly—To hasten as much as can properly be done the departure of Maximilian.

Thirdly—To defeat the machinations of ambitious unpatriotic persons, such as Ortega and Santa Anna, who desire to perpetuate the troubles of the Republic as much as they can.—*Star*.

LORD STANLEY AND THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.—Mr. Wyse, of Lloyd's, has addressed a letter to Lord Stanley directing attention to the claims of British shipowners in regard to the capture of several hundred vessels by Federal ships during the late war, to which Mr. Hammond, by desire of Lord Stanley, replied, stating that no arrangement has hitherto been made between her Majesty's Government and that of the United States for the examination and settlement of the claims of their respective subjects and citizens arising out of the events of the late civil war in the United States.

COURAGEOUS ACT OF A SOLDIER.—A coroner's inquest was held on Tuesday, at Dover, on the body of a woman named Pankhurst. The woman went to the beach in the morning to fetch some sea-water to bathe her husband's legs, and, being unable to get it there through the roughness of the sea, she went on to the Guildford Jetty, from which the waves washed her into the sea. A soldier, witnessing the woman's peril from the castle casemates, clambered over the railings, and, at great risk of his own life, descended the cliffs, some hundreds of feet high, and plunged into the foaming sea to rescue the woman. His endeavours, however, unhappily proved futile, and the woman was drowned. The spectators of the heart-rending scene contributed several pounds as their acknowledgment of the soldier's exemplary conduct.

THE LIBERATION OF VENETIA.

WE have already published several illustrations of the scenes presented in Venice during the wonderful series of events which have celebrated the freedom of Venetia. Our Engravings this week will serve as a pictorial record of those principal public ceremonies which accompanied the rejoicings on which we have dwelt more fully in previous Numbers; and the first of them indicates the popular enthusiasm with which the inhabitants of Venice anticipated the result of the plebiscite. The Austrian troops had disappeared long before, the last columns fading out of sight as the first strains of the national music announced the arrival of the Italian army in a long procession of gondolas by the great waterway of the city. Already the real Italian fleet had glided into harbour; the guns were firing salutes, and, almost too full of a surprised and awful joy to cheer, until their senses had been assured of the fact, the people waited for the confirmation of their long-delayed hope. We have described, in a previous Number, that great military procession on the Grand Canal and the sudden blooming of the city with flags, and flowers, and drapery, and the raising of the great fluttering masses of gorgeous colour—the Italian national flags on the masts in the great square of St. Mark.

The plebiscite followed, and our Illustration gives a representation of the first outburst on that great occasion. For three or four days before this momentous Sunday, when the polling-places were opened, the aspect of Venice had changed. The Austrians, and the cold gloom which their presence had preserved, had vanished—melted in the rising of the national sun, and for the first time for ages the Italian people occupied Venice with festal joy.

Soldiers walking arm in arm with gondoliers; Garibaldi in their red shirts, followed by cheering and applauding groups; National Guards, belonging mostly to the club and shopkeeping class, and who a fortnight before would no more have presumed to handle a musket and bayonet than to climb the three tall masts under the nose of an Austrian patrol and hoist the Italian tricolour there. In their place were dozens of organ-grinders, playing Garibaldi's hymn; booksellers' shops full of the portraits of the King, the Prince, and Garibaldi; legions of ballad-singers, yelling patriotic lyrics; and from every window a kaleidoscopic display of the national colours. Among the people, nine out of every ten men you met had the tricolour arranged as a cockade for his cap or a rosette for his button-

hole; the women had scarfs and neckbows of the three hues; the children wore frocks and petticoats of red, white, and green; and almost every adult, gentle or simple, wore in his hat or pinned to his breast a little piece of white cardboard, bearing the monosyllable "Si," and signifying that his electoral mind was firmly made up that, when the solemn vote, or plebiscite, would be taken, he intended to return to the elaborate question, "Are you desirous that Venetia should be united to the kingdom of Italy, under the rule of Victor Emmanuel II.?" one conclusive and sonorous "Yes."

The whole population, including the children, were in a state of excitement, and it is very fortunate that rockets appear to have the power of carrying up into the air a quantity of the superfluous enthusiasm and dispersing it there. On the night succeeding the completion of the voting there was to have been a grand procession in honour of the political prisoners returned from the interior of Austria, but only one arrived, the others being detained by some mischance. The Piazza de San Marco was emptying fast of the crowds that had filled it all the evening, when about ten o'clock a number of people were seen rushing together, and at once blue lights and white, red lights and green, began to throw a strange and unnatural brilliancy over the church, the tower, and the standards of Italy; there were cheers for the prisoners, Victor Emmanuel, Garibaldi, Italy, whose children they all are, and one for Rome, the capital of Italy.

At nine o'clock on the morning of the 27th the Tribunal of Appeal assembled in the ducal palace, and proceeded to the Sala dello Scrutinio, to hear the result of the voting—the decision of the Venetian people on their future political state. By ten o'clock the hall was nearly filled by a dense crowd. The President, Commendatore Sebastiano Tecchio, took his place in front of a rich crimson curtain, which hung from the base of Palma Giovane's "Last Judgment." Tall and venerable in appearance, his white beard falling over his breast, the President rose to speak. His words were not many, but they spoke of Venice, her trials, and her long-sighed-for freedom, and more than once his voice was broken by emotion. As he sat down, Signor Boldrin rose and read aloud the results of the votes of Venice. The audience applauded by clapping their hands. Then, one by one, other counsellors announced the number of votes at other places. The story was always the same—majorities for annexation to Italy so overwhelming as to be all but unanimous, and so little different in their proportions that the hearers almost forgot to applaud.

When the last of the wonderful decisions had been read (the list closed with Mantua and her outlying towns—Si, 37,000; No, 2) the public session was declared to be closed, and the members of the tribunal retired to count privately the remaining fragments of the great whole, sent in hour after hour by the telegraph. At three p.m. a mightier crowd was assembled in the space between the Ducal and Imperial palaces, called the Piazzetta, to hear the final announcement. In a clear, ringing voice Tecchio proclaimed that, while 273 Venetians had thrown away their votes and sixty-nine had expressed their dissent, 641,758 had declared their desire to be united to Italy under Victor Emmanuel and his heirs for ever. On hearing the declaration of the total numbers, the crowd shouted, the ships in the harbour saluted, and the people of Venice gave themselves up to the rejoicings that had been already prepared in celebration of the great event.

During this period, however, the Turinese were rejoicing also, in their more staid and sober fashion, over the accession of their Venetian brethren. A committee having been formed to present the King with the plebiscite of Venice, Victor Emmanuel decided that he would receive it at his old capital, the cradle of Italian independence, and with an imperishable title to the acknowledgments of the nation. On the 3rd of the present month, therefore, a special train conveyed to Turin the Venetian deputation, composed of Tecchio, President of the Court of Appeal; Count Giustinian, Mayor of Venice; Marquis Bayno, Mayor of Mantua; Baron Betta, Mayor of Verona; and the Mayors of the other chief towns of the Venetian territory. They were received at the railway station by the Comptroller of the Royal Household; Commander Rebendergo, the principal aide-de-camp to his Majesty; the Mayor of Turin, and all the high civil and military authorities, who conducted them in open carriages to the Hôtel de l'Europe in the Castle Piazza. Along the entire line of route the streets and squares were draped with flags, and the banners of Turin and Venice waved from tall masts, elaborately decorated. The immense crowd which completely retarded the progress of the carriages had assembled and shouted with unquestionable enthusiasm. Proud of the honour conferred on her, and actuated by true patriotic feeling, Turin saluted the representatives of Venice with a warmth that must have affected them deeply. A detachment of National Guards and a regiment of cavalry were stationed outside the hotel and saluted the carriages as they drew up, and the deputies were conducted to the balcony on the first story, whence they witnessed the marching past of the troops and the various trade associations. In the evening they were invited to a banquet given by the municipality of the city, and laid for a hundred chosen guests, including the principal officers of State, in the magnificent saloons of the Carignan Palace, the ancient dwelling-place of the reigning house, where Charles Albert and Victor Emmanuel were born, and which was from 1848 to 1864 used as the meeting-place of the Chamber of Deputies. The Salle de Séance, which has so often resounded to the eloquence of Cavour, Rattazzi, D'Azeglio, Valerio, Brofferio, and other great orators, still remains intact, and the Venetian delegates visited it with some emotion evoked by the recollections of the supporters of the popular movements which have at length set Italy free.

On the following day the Chief Usher of the Household visited the deputation in order to conduct them to the palace, where the King already awaited them in the throne-room, accompanied by his sons, Prince Carignan, the Minister of State, and the chief officers of the Crown. The deputation having been introduced, President Tecchio presented the act of plebiscite to his Majesty; and Count Giustinian, Mayor of Venice, speaking in the name of his countrymen, said that Venice, after her vote of union of 1848, had always considered herself as forming part of the monarchy under the house of Savoy; that she had taken out a new plebiscite because circumstances demanded it; but that it was only for her the occasion of a second and solemn demonstration of her firm desire to form part of the kingdom governed by that house which has given to Italy liberty and independence. Victor Emmanuel, who showed considerable emotion, which was shared by all present, responded in a short but emphatic and affecting address, and afterwards received from the hands of General Menabrea the iron crown of the Lombard Kings, given up by Austria, and brought in a casket lined with white velvet. After looking at this for some time he replaced it, and, quitting the throne-room, immediately afterwards appeared with the deputation on an outer balcony of the palace, whence they could see the march past of the National Guard and the garrison of Turin. At six o'clock his Majesty again received the deputation to dinner, and on the following day they visited the tomb of Charles Albert, accompanying the Royal party to Venice in the evening, where there awaited them those more gorgeous festivities of which we gave some description in our last week's Number.

UNVEILING OF THE FRANKLIN MEMORIAL.

The Franklin memorial, in Waterloo-place, voted by Parliament, was unveiled on Thursday, Nov. 15.

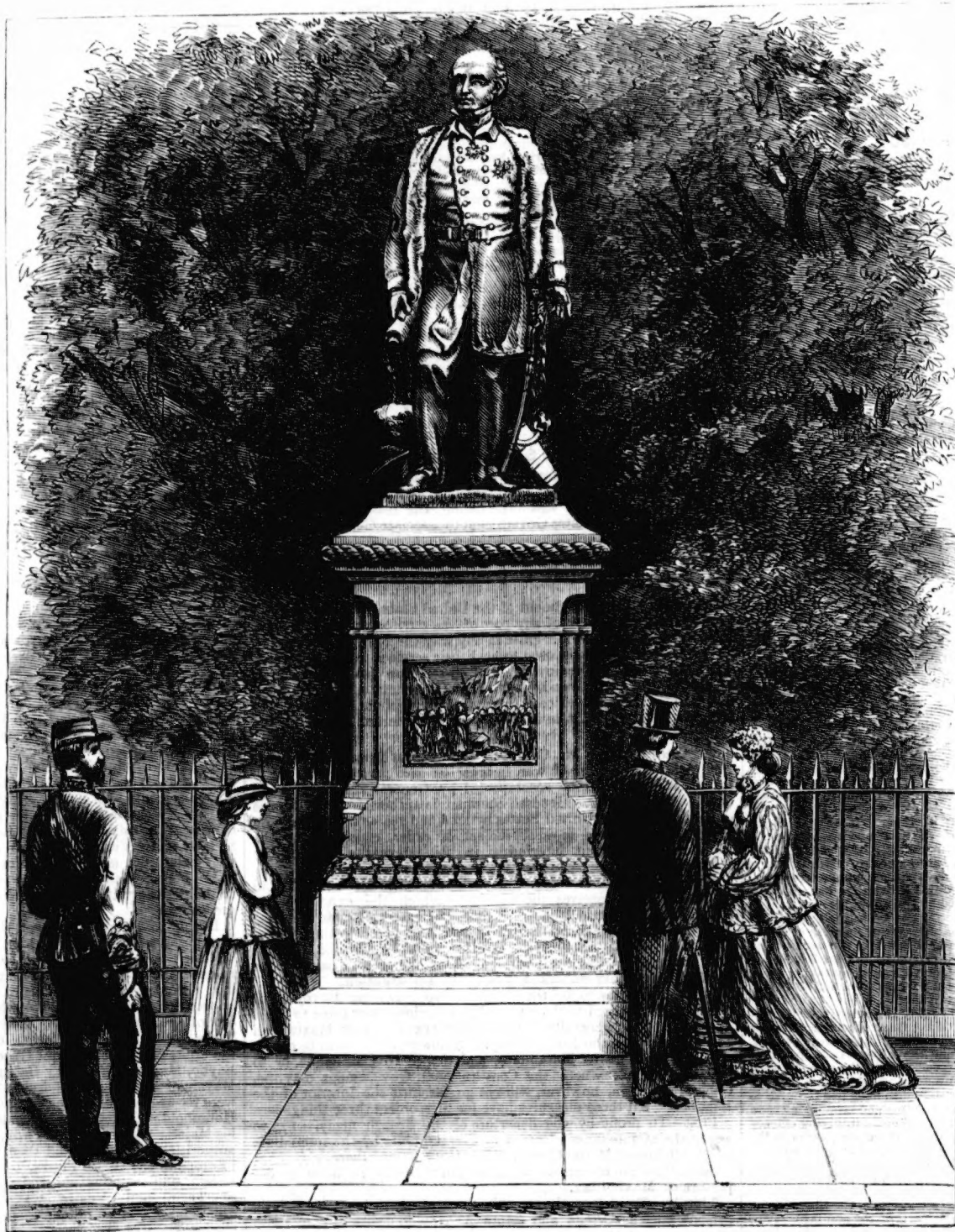
The statue of Sir John is 8 ft. 4 in. high, cast in bronze by Messrs. Robinson and Cottam. The pedestal is of polished granite from Aberdeen. The moment selected for representation is that in which Franklin had the great satisfaction of describing to his officers and crew that the "North-west Passage" had at length been discovered. He grasps in his hand the telescope, chart, and compasses, and wears the uniform of a naval commander, with a loose overcoat of fur. Mr. Noble's great object has been to give the character of Franklin, and, as far as possible, to indicate those qualities of mind which enabled him, by his deeds in life and by an example of heroic endurance in death, to add to the fame and glory of his country.

The likeness has been pronounced by Lady Franklin and those who knew him best to be characteristic and excellent. The bas-relief in front of the pedestal represents the funeral of Franklin, where Captain Crozier reads the service for the dead. He is surrounded by the officers and crews of the two ships, Erebus and Terror. It is well known that not one of the whole number ever returned. Their names, however, are recorded in bronze panels at the sides of the memorial. In the back panel is an embossed chart of the Arctic regions, showing the position of the ships at the time of Franklin's death. The pedestal is ornamented with a bronze cable and the plinth enriched with oak-leaves and acorns, denoting strength and magnanimity. It is the finished epitome—in bronze and granite—of a whole adventurous and heroic life. It is a fitting commemoration of a glorious expedition, undertaken for the advancement of human knowledge—the record of a nation's gratitude to the memory of those by whose valour and endurance was successfully carried out a fatal but triumphant enterprise; the one name, the one memory, naturally dominating over all others being, as a matter of course, that of Sir John Franklin, the glorious leader of the expedition. Beneath the affecting bas-relief in front appears the following brief but impressive inscription:—"To the Great Arctic Navigator, Franklin, and his brave Companions, who sacrificed their lives in completing the Discovery of the North-west Passage, A.D. 1847. Erected by the unanimous vote of Parliament."

About half-past two Sir John Pakington, First Lord of the Admiralty; Sir Roderick Murchison, President of the Geographical Society; Admirals Ommaney, Collinson, and Hall; Captains Hobson, Osborn, and Robinson; Count Strozlecki, the Archbishop of York, M. Du Chaillu, Professor Ramsay, Dr. Pusey, General Sabine, Sir H. Rawlinson, Mr. Ayrton, M.P., &c., and a number of stout, hearty-looking seamen, wearing the Arctic medal, assembled at the foot of the statue.

Lady Franklin and a very large number of ladies witnessed the interesting ceremony from the balcony of the Athenæum Clubhouse.

Sir R. Murchison said he had been desired, as president of the Royal Geographical Society, to request the First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir John Pakington, to inaugurate the statue raised to perpetuate the memory of



THE FRANKLIN MEMORIAL IN WATERLOO-PLACE.

that distinguished and most eminent man, Sir John Franklin.

The agent of Mr. Noble, the sculptor, removed the covering that enveloped the statue, and

Sir J. Pakington said he accepted the task, and, in doing so, it afforded him the greatest happiness, because he looked upon their interesting proceedings that day as the completion of a noble work begun by Parliament. Sir John Franklin was an officer who had served his country well for nearly half a century, and whose life had been one of incessant work for the honour and glory of his country. The late distinguished officer entered the Navy as a boy. He fought, under the illustrious Nelson, at Copenhagen; and afterwards, actuated by the most noble desire, he joined an exploring party to the coast of New Holland. In 1818 he made the first Arctic voyage. In 1819 he again left his native home; but on this occasion he went as leader, and, accompanied by Richardson, he performed his second Arctic voyage. He did not return till the year 1822, but then he came back with great success. In 1825 we find him again leaving England, and for two years he was absent, following up the great discoveries he had made in his preceding voyage. On his return, he undertook some administrative duties ashore, and he remained so occupied until the year 1847, when, released from his civil duties, he embarked on his last ill-fated expedition. He left his native country, to which it was never his fate to return; but, like his once illustrious commander, the great Nelson, he perished in the hour of victory.

The name of Franklin would always be associated with those of Davis, of Baffin, of Back, Parry, and Belcher—not forgetting M'Clintock and M'Clure. He hoped that day's proceeding would be a consolation to his illustrious widow, because in that statue was recorded a nation's gratitude that would remain to perpetuate his fame for ages yet to come, and that the name of Franklin would be enshrined among those great heroes of whose glory and whose fame England was justly proud.

Sir R. Murchison said a few words, and called for three hearty cheers for Lady Franklin.

The invitation of the distinguished speaker was instantly complied with, and three of the heartiest and loudest cheers were given with the greatest enthusiasm.

Cheers were then given for Sir John Pakington, and Sir Roderick Murchison; after which the assemblage dispersed.



HAWKING IN FRANCE—SEE PAGE 334.



ENTRY OF KING VICTOR EMMANUEL INTO VENICE.

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REFORMS.

WE have, at last, a distinct proposal from Mr. Bright on the subject of Parliamentary reform. The reformers who assembled at Manchester on Monday threw out a resolution to the effect that the general plan of a bill should be prepared for public consideration; but on Tuesday evening Mr. Bright did just what it had been decided not to do. Without going into unnecessary details, he announced the general principle on which the much-talked-of measure is to be framed. Household suffrage and an assimilation of the Parliamentary franchise in boroughs to the municipal franchise, is the basis he recommends; and its adoption will, no doubt, be advocated by the great majority of his actual supporters. The result of Monday's meeting, however—or rather the absence of result—would seem to show that the reformers are not of one mind. Whether those who voted against the resolution which recommended that the draught of a bill be forthwith prepared objected to that step on the ground of its being premature, or whether they felt the responsibility of coming to an agreement on the general principle of the bill, it is certain that those who are most distinctly pledged to the cause of reform can hit upon no common plan of action. One of the most damaging charges that has been made against the reform party is that it does not precisely know what it wants. This was not the case in 1830, when flagrant evils existed in connection with our Parliamentary system which it was the special object of reformers to remedy. Some of our largest cities were not represented in Parliament at all; and town interests in general were represented insufficiently. Certain boroughs were notoriously venal. In others the electors did not even enjoy the right of selling their votes; but were required to give them, as they were required to pay their rent, to the great landowner of the place, or to any substitute that he might choose to appoint. At present, the great objection made by the reformers to Parliament as now constituted is the purely theoretical one that it does not represent the whole nation. Parliament most certainly does not represent the whole nation in the sense in which the Austrian Reichsrath represents Austria. But was it ever intended to do so? and does it necessarily follow that the Assembly which in the most exact manner possible represents the whole nation shall for that reason make the best laws?

A feeling in favour of an extension of the suffrage has, however, been growing for years past, and there are few men of Liberal sympathies who will not admit that numbers of persons are now excluded from the right of voting who might safely be trusted with it. The great difficulty in the matter is to determine the point down to which the reduction of the electoral qualification shall be carried. If the eight-pounder is a man and a brother, so also is the seven-pounder; and if there is any probability that the happiness of the seven-pounder will be increased by his obtaining a vote, why should not the same chance of felicity be given to the six-pounder? It is vain to argue that there is any greater likelihood of the six-pounder yielding to corruption than of the seven and eight pounder doing so; for the labours of the Bribery Commissions have shown that, as far as mere money bribes are concerned, those who take them most freely are, as might be expected, those who have most need of them; and in this category a large number of eight-pounders would certainly have to be placed. If, then, the object of Reformers were to obtain an electoral body which should be, as nearly as possible, inaccessible to money influences, the first thing to do would be, not to extend the suffrage, but to restrict it within its present limits. But, whatever their object, it is of little consequence now. Parliament has to be reformed—that is to say, the electoral qualification has to be lowered—and it is convenient for all parties to have a distinct proposition put forward on the subject. Whether we should get a better Parliament by giving every householder the right of voting at Parliamentary elections, is a question that can only be decided by experiment; but it is one that cannot fail to be popular with our politicians, for it possesses this advantage, that it can be discussed for ever without the possibility of its being resolved by mere discussion.

Whatever may be done with Parliament, there is one institution in England which most certainly will have to be reformed, in the truest and most literal meaning of the word. We refer, of course, to the Army. The old cry of "Peace, retrenchment, and reform!" can now no longer be raised. We desire peace as a matter of course, for at the present moment there is nothing in the world to fight about, and England is far too vulnerable, as well as too peaceful, to go to war unless under circumstances that absolutely compel her to do so. "Reform," in the Parliamentary sense of the word, we are to have. Re-

trenchment we cannot have, if we are to arm and maintain a body of troops on the scale now contemplated. Although no official announcement has been made on the subject, it is believed that the Army Estimates next year will be unusually large. The Army has to be supplied with rifles, new or "converted," and it is more than probable that its numbers will be increased. Although there is, fortunately, no prospect of a war in any quarter at this moment, it is a fact that every great Power in Europe, with the exception of England, is now armed or rapidly arming; and, whatever may be said from time to time about our policy of non-intervention (a policy attributed to Earl Russell, but which, in the last edition of his work on the English Constitution, he distinctly repudiates), we shall, as heretofore, intervene in all wars when it suits us to do so, and abstain from intervention only in the contrary case.

But at the present moment we are absolutely condemned, we will not say to non-intervention, but to inaction, whether we wish to act or not. If the rumours about Holland and Belgium were true, and if those countries were to be occupied to-morrow, we could only look on while Antwerp was being converted into a second Cherbourg. The plan of allowing the Continent to take care of itself has its advantages, no doubt; but one of the disadvantages of it is that it leaves us without allies. Now, if we have no allies on whom we can count to help us to fight our battles, we must be prepared either to fight them ourselves, or to announce that we have given up fighting—which would be equivalent to saying that anyone who pleased might attack us. Consequently, the so-called policy of non-intervention, instead of being the cheapest in the world, may prove in the end exceedingly dear. In former days we could always reckon on the aid of some German Power if we were attacked by France, and we could get as many soldiers as we liked from the States of the small German Potentates. All this is changed, and, on the whole, no doubt, for the better; but, if in the future we are not to mix ourselves up with the affairs of others, we must at least be equal to the management of the affairs which immediately concern ourselves. Instead of being able to dispense with the services of a large army, we shall probably require a larger one than we ever had before.

MR. HUGHES, M.P., AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—Amongst the more remarkable "extra-Parliamentary utterances" of the present recess, that of Mr. Hughes, in addressing his constituents of Lambeth, will perhaps be reckoned. As regards reform, Mr. Hughes does not see how Lord Derby can avoid bringing in a measure giving household suffrage in boroughs, in which case the Government would have his most hearty support. The courage of the hon. member is one of his most distinguishing characteristics; and everyone, therefore, would be more pleased than surprised at his eloquent denunciation of certain of the lower stratum of £10 householders who figure so frequently in the magisterial convictions for using short weights and false balances. His audience, however, seemed to consider these practices as subjects for merriment, for they received his denunciations of cheating with laughter.

LETTER OF MAZZINI TO THE ROMANS.—The following letter from Mazzini, dated London, Oct. 27, is published in *Le Patrie*:—"To the Romans.—Now, when the moment has arrived for the accomplishment of the solemn act of the retreat of foreign occupation from the land of the Scipios, our Rome, it is incumbent on the generous children of that grand city to show themselves worthy of their ancestors! Brethren, do not give way to diplomacy that it may combine for new machinations to forge afresh the fetters now about to be broken. Let the political changes accomplished by the Roman people in 1849 serve you as instruction, so that you do not this time act inconsiderately, and by popular movements lend the hand to new oppressions. The duty of every Roman is to keep himself in readiness for events. Romans, Europe, up to the present time, has admired your attitude. A hecatomb of vanquished would on your part be an act without generosity. Vengeance ought never to tarnish the victory of a people that has reconquered its liberty. This is the motto of the fraternity of peoples that attain to greatness." (Signed) MAZZINI.

DEAN CLOSE AND THE RAILWAY WHISTLES.—The Dean of Carlisle has published a protest against the nuisances arising from the smoke and noise from railway whistles. He tells the citizens of Carlisle that, unless they are prepared to sit down for ever under the infliction of noise and smoke, "to an extent unrivalled by any city of equal importance in England," now is the time to speak, when several railway companies are about to apply to Parliament for power to extend the stations. In the deanery, he says, "we are driven from all the houses facing westward by the incessant screaming at all times of the day and night; and the windows must be carefully watched, for, if they are open when a dozen engines are lighting their fires in the station-houses immediately below us, the house is filled with dense black smoke, destructive to furniture—in fact, one can hardly breathe it. Were it merely the stated scream of regular trains passing through at fixed hours it might be tolerable, but shunting and signalling are recurring continually. Hardly half an hour, day or night, is there a calm, except on the Sabbath day, which we enjoy, thanking the Sabbath-day propensities of our Scottish neighbours, who procure a respite, more or less, for twenty-four hours. Sometimes," continues the Dean, "four or five whistles are going at once—all inventions of some arch enemy, who devised the most piercing, screeching, detestable noise that human ingenuity could devise, and this continues all night, regardless of the weary and often the sick and suffering, who take repose in vain, starting oftentimes from a vain effort of repose, aroused by some new development of discordant, distressing noise. Yet every one of the locomotives breaks the law every time it stirs, consuming the worst coal and making the foulest smoke, when coke ought to be used, and pouring forth volumes of suffocating smoke, which by law they ought themselves to consume. Can nothing be done? Will they Committees of the House refuse to listen to us? I am prepared to go up to town and give evidence, if any defensive combination can be effected."

THE SCIENCE OF BETTING.—Mr. Charles Dodgson, Mathematical Lecturer at Christ Church, Oxford, says that the rule of betting may be stated thus:—"Write all the possible events in a column, placing opposite to each the odds offered against it: this will give two columns of figures. For the third column add together the odds in each case, and find the least common multiple of all the numbers in this column. For the fourth column divide this least common multiple by the several numbers in the third column. For the fifth and sixth columns multiply the original odds by the several numbers in the fourth column. These odds are to be given or taken, according as the sum total of the sixth column is greater or less than the least common multiple. The last two columns give the relative amounts to be invested in each bet:—

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------|---------|-------|-------|-------------|---|---|
| A | 2 to 3 | .. 5 | .. 12 | .. 24 to 36 | | |
| B | 4 to 1 | .. 5 | .. 12 | .. 48 to 12 | | |
| C | 5 to 1 | .. 6 | .. 10 | .. 50 to 10 | | |
| D | 9 to 1 | .. 10 | .. 6 | .. 54 to 6 | | |
| The Field .. | 14 to 1 | .. 15 | .. 4 | .. 56 to 4 | | |

An example will make this clear:—Suppose that in a race about to be run there are four horses in the betting, the odds being 3 to 2 on the favourite, which is equivalent to 5 to 3 against. The least common multiple of the third column is 60, and the sum total of the last 68; and, as this is greater than 60, the odds in this case are all to be given in the relative amounts given in the fifth and sixth columns. Suppose, for example, that I multiply these columns by 10 and make the bets in pounds—that is, I take £360 to £240 on A, I give £480 to £120 against B, and so on. Now, suppose C to win the race: in this case, I lose £500 and win £360 + £120 + £60 + £40 = £580. It will be found, on trial, that I win the same sum, £80, in each of the five events. If all betting-men tried to work this system they would either be all offering odds or all taking odds on each event, and so no bets could be made. But the fact that this system of winning is ever possible arises from the odds being unevenly adjusted, so that they do not represent the real chances of the several events. Supposing this system to be applied only in cases where the odds were evenly adjusted, the sum total of the sixth column would always be equal to the least common multiple; and thus, whether the odds were given or taken, the concluding entry in every betting-book would be "Gain = Loss = Nil"—a most desirable result."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has consented to inaugurate the memorial of the late Prince Consort at Wolverhampton. The ceremony is fixed for the 30th inst. Her Majesty will be accompanied by Prince and Princess Christian and Princess Louise.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES has contributed to the park at Bingley, in the West Riding, a number of trees, in recognition of the "good and kind feeling shown by the inhabitants and working men of Bingley towards himself and the Princess of Wales."

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA has presented a gold pocket compass, set with brilliants, to Archibald Smith, Esq., jun., F.R.S., of Jordanhill, Scotland, in recognition of the value of his mathematical researches into the deviation of the compass in iron ships.

LADY PALMERSTON has subscribed £500 to the memorial to be erected to her late husband in Ramsey Abbey Church.

LORD CHIEF BARON KELLY and Lord Justice Cairns are, it is asserted, to be made peers, in order that they may strengthen the judicial element of the Upper House.

A CANARD affecting the safety of the Prince of Wales obtained extensive currency in London on Friday evening week. It was to the effect that his Royal Highness had been killed while hunting in Russia. The report was utterly unfounded.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES KEAN appeared for the first time in the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Saturday night, after their tour round the world. There was a full house to meet them.

CHIEF JUSTICE ERLE will sit for the last time in the Court of Common Pleas on the last day of Term, when it is understood that the Attorney-General, on behalf of the Bar, will give expression to the sense entertained of the ability and popularity of the retiring Judge.

THE RIGHT HON. JOSEPH NAPIER is to be made a Baronet, and he will be sworn in one of her Majesty's Privy Council in England. Lord Westbury and the new Baronet will, it is understood, conduct the business of the Judicial Committee. [Mr. Napier resigned position on the Irish Bench because too deaf to be able efficiently to discharge his duties. Is he less infirm now? or is deafness no disqualification in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.]

THE WEXFORD ELECTION closed on Monday evening with the following result of the polling:—Kavanagh, 2642; Hennessey, 1881: majority, 761. Both candidates were Conservatives. A Conservative, Mr. Lanyon, has been elected to fill the place of Sir Hugh Cairns, at Belfast.

THE FRENCH AND PRUSSIAN GOVERNMENTS have just signed a treaty for the abolition of the fee of 5*fr.* on each passport between the two countries.

THE FAMINE in Bengal is abating, and a good harvest is expected in Lower Bengal.

THE SPANISH RELIGIOUS JOURNALS recommend the re-establishment of the inquisition in Spain, as the sole means of saving society!

THE COTTON CROP in Egypt is considered to be very satisfactory. The quality is good, and the exportation is expected to reach about three million of quintals (22*½* lb. each).

MR. J. T. GILBERT, author of the "History of Dublin" and the "History of the Viceroys of Ireland," has been elected by the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts to succeed the late Dr. Petrie in the chair of history and archaeology.

RYDE, in the Isle of Wight, will most probably be formed ere long into a borough, and be honoured by having a Mayor and Corporation to rule over it.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT, with a view to prevent an enemy advancing into the country by rail, have adopted a slightly narrower gauge than the one used on the rest of the Continent.

A BOTTLE has been picked up containing a paper on which are the following words:—"Nov. 12.—The ship John Shaw, of and from Falmouth, forty-six days out, waterlogged, dismantled, and in a hopeless state. All boats gone."

LORD SCARSDALE has granted leave to his tenants to destroy rabbits upon their farms from Nov. 8 till Feb. 8 next.

M. GUSTAVE DORE has been engaged to illustrate Edgar Allan Poe's celebrated poem, "The Raven."

A CONFERENCE OF REFORMERS was held in Manchester on Monday, and a banquet in aid of the same cause took place on Tuesday evening; both meetings were under the auspices of the "National Reform Union," not the "National Reform League," presided over by Mr. Beales.

THE PORT LAUREATE, it is said, is about to leave the Isle of Wight, where he has a pretty little house and grounds at Faringford. If the report be true, he will actually have been driven away by the intrusion of his neighbours. He has bought up all the land he could get round his house, but to no effect. He is watched and dogged wherever he goes.

THE CURFEW BELL of the fine peal in Chester Cathedral was broken on the 9th instant, when a peal in honour of the birthday of the Prince of Wales was being rung. The bell bore date 1728.

A LARGE QUANTITY OF BREACH-LOADING RIFLES (Snider pattern) have been received at Aldershot Camp from the War Department, and will be immediately distributed in proportion to the different infantry corps in the camp; and the instruction of officers, non-commissioned officers, and men in the use of the weapon will be commenced without delay.

BRIDGET KELLY, a woman who had been arrested for begging, was, on Tuesday, brought before the Liverpool magistrates. The sum of £31 was found upon her. She was committed to gaol for seven days, the cost of her maintenance to be paid out of the money found upon her. Her daughter, a child of twelve, who was apprehended with the mother, was remanded.

THE EDMUNDS SCANDALS are again before the Court of Chancery. The purpose of the present suit is to have certain issues tried as to the application of £300, which Mr. Edmunds agreed to advance out of his salary of £4000 a year, as clerk of the patents, for the benefit of the widow and family of Mr. John Brougham.

ANOTHER DEPUTATION—this time of working men—has waited upon Mr. Walpole to ask that a commission may be appointed to inquire into the recent outrages at Sheffield. The men said their great anxiety was to have a full and searching investigation. Mr. Walpole intimated that himself and his colleagues were inclined to grant a commission.

THE SENATE OF THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND has finished the task of drawing up regulations for the matriculation examination and the subsequent attainment of degrees in art by students other than those educated in the Queen's Colleges. Henceforth the Senate design that degrees and honours shall be open to such colleges in Ireland as desire affiliation with the Queen's University.

MR. YARDLEY, one of the metropolitan police magistrates, died on Sunday morning. For some time he had been in a declining state of health and unable to leave his bed. The deceased gentleman, who was in his sixty-second year, was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in November, 1834. About twenty years ago he was appointed one of the magistrates at the Thames Police Court, from which, upon the death of Mr. Secker, some six years ago, he was transferred to the Marylebone district.

THE LONDON, CHATHAM, AND DOVER COMPANY have issued a circular to the shareholders describing a Parliamentary scheme for extricating the undertaking from its present embarrassments. It recommends the raising of £1,500,000 of stock, to take preference over all existing shares and debentures, and does not ask the debenture-holders to give up any portion of their claims either to principal or interest.

POLLEN SHOWERS are of annual occurrence in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, and, in fact, in all countries where there are pine or spruce forests of any great extent. When the trees are in bloom the pollen fills the air, and falls down in an invisible shower, coating the surfaces of the lakes and ponds and quiet bays of the sea, collecting between the laps of greenhouses and other glazed roofs, and finding its way from the roofs of houses down through the water-spouts into cisterns and casks.

A DEPUTATION from the Trades Reform Demonstration Committee waited, on Tuesday, upon Sir R. Mayne, to ask him to make traffic arrangements in the streets on Dec. 3, to enable the processions of working men to get to Chelsea. Sir Richard declined to do anything of the kind, and expressed his disapproval of bringing great bodies of men into crowded streets. He should do his best to maintain the peace, but the law did not allow him to interfere with the traffic. A similar answer has been returned by Lord John Manners to an application for leave to marshal the procession in the Mall, St. James's Park. Lord John throws the entire responsibility on the getters-up of the gathering.

THE NEWS OF THE LAST BATTLE IN SOUTH AMERICA first reached the northern part of the same continent by telegraph from England. The New York papers published it with the heading, "Important from South America—Rio Janeiro, Oct. 10, via London, Nov. 5."

LADY PALMERSTON and some benevolent ladies and gentlemen are about to build a small hospital at Ramsey, in Hants.

THE REV. PROFESSOR SELWYN has so far recovered from the effects of his late accident as to be deemed out of danger.

CAPTAIN HALL, the adventurous and simple-minded explorer, whose "Life Among the Esquimaux" had many English readers, has discovered some further relics of the Franklin expedition, and is likely to visit a spot where some members of the ill-fated expedition were buried. He has not found, nor is he likely to find, any traces of living comrades of Sir John Franklin.

THE TRADE DISPUTE IN THE POTTERIES has been settled. At a conference of the masters and men the union delegates pledged their honour that no advance of wages should be asked during the year if the masters would agree to the month's notice system instead of annual hiring. The masters accepted the pledge, and the lock-out is over.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES, the indefatigable member for Lambeth, has been making a speech to his constituents, and at the close of it he uttered these words:—"Before sitting down, he would say that his ears had tingled on reading in the newspapers that a great number of persons had been convicted of using false weights and measures in Lambeth." This is characteristic of the honourable member. Everybody who knows Mr. Thomas Hughes will easily believe that such mean, rascally practices would make his ears tingle. The *Pall Mall Gazette* has also been directing attention to these convictions, and has been drawing, in its logical way, very large and serious conclusions from the prevalence of this disreputable crime. "See what a set of detestable wretches these ten-pound shopkeepers are; and yet these are the men who elect our representatives. Poor encouragement for us to enfranchise a lower class," and so on. Such is the logic of the *Pall Mall* philosopher. Let me, then, say a word or two on the other side, that may, by damaging the premises of the logician, topple over his logical structure, and also mitigate the painful tingling in Mr. Hughes's sensitive ears. Several Parliamentary returns in the years 1857 to 1864 show that the average yearly convictions for the use of short weights and measures and false balances amounted to somewhat over 4000 in Great Britain. Now, considering the vast number of persons who use weights, measures, and scales, and the millions of weights, measures, and scales used, I do not think that this is a very formidable number. But there is something more than this to be considered. The law is exceedingly strict. The magistrate has no discretion except in the amount of fine to be inflicted. If the scale, or weight, or yard "do turn but in the estimation of a hair" its owner must be convicted. But the magistrate has a discretion as to the amount of the penalty; and it is understood that magistrates generally, when they consider that the case is one of fraud, inflict a penalty of 40s. and upwards; but when they deem it one of mere negligence or ignorance, they impose a penalty under 40s. Well, now, let Mr. Hughes and the *Pall Mall* mark. Whilst the convictions in 1857-64 numbered 4000 a year, the convictions followed by penalties of 40s. and over amounted to only 200 a year, which, when compared with the number of persons using scales, weights, and measures, is ridiculously small. But, perhaps, some of your readers may doubt the possibility of shopkeepers using short weights and measures and imperfect scales through neglect or ignorance. Well, if said readers do entertain such doubts, that only shows to me that they are very ignorant on this subject. The truth is that the law and practice on weights and measures are exceedingly faulty. In the first place, it is a most difficult thing to get accurate weights, measures, and scales, and still more difficult to keep them so. Mathematical accuracy is not to be obtained; and, if it could be, from the moment you obtain it divergence begins. And then what guarantees have you that the testing-scales, &c., are accurate? The original standards themselves have not been tested, I am told, for forty years, and it is more than suspected that they are erroneous; and, if they are wrong, of course the inspectors' standards are wrong. The inspectors' weights are often found to be wrong, and are corrected by plugging. In such cases the tradesmen's weights, which at the last testing were found to be all right, will at the next be all wrong. Take also another absurdity in the law and practice: the tradesman charged with using false weights, or measures, or scales, is not allowed to bring evidence to rebut the charge. The *ipse dixit* of the inspector is final; and he gets half the penalty. "Well," said my friend Blogg, who had read the *Pall Mall*, "if I were a tradesman I would always take care to have my scales and weights a trifle in favour of the buyer." "Would you?" I replied; "Then you would be fined." "What! fined for having weights too heavy?" "Yes; because, though probably you never do, you may, you know, buy with those weights." In fine, Mr. Editor, the law of weights and measures is a disgrace to us. Take one example which I have alluded to. The real judge is, as you must have discovered, the inspector. He tests the weights, &c., by his own standard, under no inspection; he notes down the variation; he lays the information. The magistrate cannot receive evidence to rebut the charge; but, upon the sole evidence of this man, inflicts the penalty, and he receives half the amount. So you see that the reputation of tradesmen is at the mercy of a man, who may be an exceptionally honest man, but who may be a rogue, and certainly has the strongest temptations presented him to be a rogue. So you see there are, as in other matters, two sides to the weights-and-measures question, and a good deal may be said on both. I have had my say on one side; you may "go in" on t'other, if you like.

"Plenty of Cabinet meetings now; what can they be concocting?" said I to my political gossip. "A reform bill, I suppose." "Do you know, I rather doubt that," he replied. "They have had the subject of an increase of the army on the carpet, I hear. The old General (Peel), and Cranbourne, and Pakington, and Manners want more soldiers by a vast number—regular soldiers, I mean, none of your raw militiamen; but Dizzy and Northcote, our chief financiers, and that set, give the proposition the cold shoulder. They don't like to make their debut as financiers with a proposition to expend another million or so, and, of course, to increase taxation; and I hear that Dizzy told the General that if the proposition is to be made he must make it." "Well, why shouldn't he? He would do it very well. But what do we want more soldiers for?" "Well, Cranbourne wants some for India; we are building new transports, and he has a plan in his head to make some alteration in the system of reliefs; and the General thinks we are not strong enough at home, in the present electric state of Europe." "Oh! that's the way the wind blows. The General has always shown an itching to interfere in the European quarrels. In that warlike speech of his, two years ago, on the Denmark question, he openly declared that we ought to have gone to war. But what does Lord Stanley say to this? I doubt whether he will back the General." "Not he, I fancy. At all events, he was dead against the General on the Denmark business; for when my friend Dullborough asked him whether we ought not to strike in for the Danes, he turned round, in something like a pet, and roared out, 'Confound the Danes!'" "I suppose, Blogg," said I, "this about the differences in the Cabinet is mere gossip?" "Well, it may be so. Cabinet secrets seldom ooze out; they do, though, sometimes. It is generally considered that a secret known by two people is not safe; how much more, then, is it in danger when fifteen must know it, and probably half a dozen more? My firm belief is that what I have told you is, in the main, correct." "Then," said I, "there will be a row when Parliament meets?" "Ah! you mean if the proposition should be made in Parliament, and there I agree with you; but I do not believe that it will be made next Session."

Mr. Spofforth, of the firm of Baxter, Rose, Norton, and Co., was examined by the Election Commission at Totnes the other day. He is, you know, the Conservative political agent. The Commissioners got nothing out of Mr. Spofforth; nobody who knows Mr. Spofforth thought they would. Mr. Spofforth under examination reminded one of a terrier dog handling a hedgehog. He, like the hedgehog, obstinately refused to open. "Your letter-book, Mr. Spofforth." "We never keep letter-books on election matters." Of course not. Mere spoken words are, like furrows made in water, instantly obliterated; but the written word remains, and, though buried out of sight for a time, may rise again most inconveniently. Oh, wise Mr. Spofforth! This is a touch of art. And, though there were many letters written to Mr. Spofforth produced, there was, you may be sure, nothing in them to commit Mr. Spofforth or his clients, or they would not have been exhibited. But, mistake me not, I do not mean to insinuate that Mr. Spofforth has ever been an accomplice in these bribery cases. He is, perhaps, neither better nor worse than other respectable lawyers; but he is a great deal wiser than most of them, and, as he never becomes a party to bribery, so, I honestly believe, from all I have heard, he never recommends his clients to do it. But if they refuse to listen to his advice, and get into difficulties, he, of course, does all that he can to get them out; and he is the man to do it. It is understood in the political world that Mr. Spofforth is the prince of election agents—wiser, more

prudent, and perhaps more sagacious than the illustrious Coppock; and as to the present Liberal agents, they are nowhere. Think of that election petition to unseat Sir Robert Clifton being allowed to proceed up to the last moment! Sir Robert would willingly have withdrawn his petition against Morley if Morley's agent would have withdrawn his; but he haughtily refused; he was "cock-sure," as the boys say; and the result was, both were unseated. Spofforth would never have done such a foolish thing as that.

A paragraph has appeared in several of our contemporaries stating that Mr. J. Hain Friswell, a well-known author and journalist, had been struck down by "paralysis of the brain." I have the best authority—that of Mr. Friswell himself—to contradict this report. Mr. Friswell is recovering from a painful and severe disorder of the chest, known as pleurisy or pleuritis. Some similarity between two words in common use only among medical experts has probably caused the mis-statement to which I have referred.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Falconer's new drama, at HER MAJESTY'S, "Oonagh; or, the Lovers of Lisnamona," is a fearful mistake. It is in five acts, and the first act lasted one hour and forty minutes on the first night of its representation. All these Irish dramas are exactly alike as far as their component features are concerned. They all treat of evictions, priests, squires, and secret societies; and every Irish piece has one dark scene and one deed of horror committed in it. Most of them involve a court of justice, conducted in a highly irregular manner by a partisan judge, counsel ignorant of the simplest features of a criminal trial, a gushing jury, and a crowd of peasantry devoted to the interests of the prisoner, who is always wrongfully accused. Add to these elements a spy, and an "English officer quartered there," and all you have to do is to ring the changes on the different groups which these component parts are calculated to form. "Oonagh" lacks only the English officer; in every other respect it is, as far as construction is concerned, an Irish drama of the purest breed. It is inordinately long; it is very dreary, and the dialogue is not enlivened by a single line which deserves to raise a laugh. Mr. Falconer plays the part of an Irish miser; and, save that he curses every prominent character in the piece by turns, and a good many who are not at all prominent, including a judge, jury, two counsel, and a high sheriff, he plays it with considerable ability. His miserly disposition is overdone, and his tendency to swoon whenever anything happens to annoy him—which is often—renders him rather a monotonous character. But there are many good points in his representation, notwithstanding; it is original, and, in part, highly picturesque. Miss Addison, daughter of the excellent comedian of that name, made her debut at this theatre in the character of Oonagh with success. She has a pretty face and a sympathetic voice and manner, and her performance of the part—a very conventional one—indicated cultivation and good taste. Mr. Ryder has a preposterous part to play—a heavy villain of the most melodramatic dye; but the audience would hardly listen to a word he had to say, and a considerable portion of his part was performed in dumb show. It is only fair to Mr. Ryder to state that this was entirely due to the nonsense that was put into his mouth. None of the other characters in the piece call for any remark, except perhaps a small part—Bridget Nulty—excellently played by Miss M. Hudson. The piece was an abject failure, and of an audience of perhaps several thousands who were present at the rise of the curtain, hardly two hundred remained until the end of the piece, which took place at twenty minutes to one in the morning.

Mr. Burnand's burlesque at the HAYMARKET, "Antony and Cleopatra," may serve to tide over until Christmas; but I doubt whether it has a longer career in store for it. Mr. Burnand adheres pretty closely to Shakespeare's version of the tale—the principal diversity being in the anti-climax, in which (in Mr. Burnand's version) Antony and Cleopatra agree to recover and live. The burlesque, which is well written in some parts, presents evidence of great carelessness in others; and in many cases the metre, as set out in the printed book, is faulty and the rhymes detestable. Whatever Mr. Burnand may say to the contrary, "veneration" does not rhyme with "adoration," nor "Virgil" with "cudgel." The burlesque is encumbered with a good deal of tedious business, which interferes to no purpose with the action—Lepidus's scenes when shut up in the Sphinx, to wit. The fall of the curtain was greeted with mingled applause and disapprobation, and no call was raised for the author—a fact which I believe to be due rather to the extremely careless manner in which the piece was played by almost everyone concerned than to any fault of Mr. Burnand's. Mr. Charles Mathews broke down completely in his only solo, and the performance partook rather of the character of a bad rehearsal than a finished performance. The piece is liberally placed upon the stage, and is furnished with some excellent scenery.

Perhaps it hardly comes within my province, as your Theatrical Lounger, to treat of what purported to be a medical and scientific lecture; but, as I happened to be present at Dr. Mary E. Walker's gathering at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on Tuesday last, and as it turned out to be neither medical nor scientific in its character, but simply a lecture on Bloomerism and slaves in America, I may be permitted to regard it in the light of an entertainment, and to write of it accordingly. Dr. Mary E. Walker is a slight, girlish-looking woman of, perhaps, thirty; but, from the distance at which I saw her, she looked younger. She was dressed in an incongruous compromise between the ordinary male and female attire, combining a frock coat and dark trousers, of ordinary masculine cut, with the feminine distinctions of back hair and a wreath. She has a clear, ringing voice, but it is hardly sufficiently strong for St. James's Hall, and the greater part of her remarks must have been "inaudible in the gallery." The lecture was uninteresting in matter—commonplace, indeed, to a singular degree; but there was nothing whatever in it to call for the disgraceful demonstration which a number of ill-advised blackguards made against it on Tuesday night. Shrieks, howls, and catcalls interrupted the lecturer at every half dozen sentences; every innocent remark which was even remotely susceptible of indelicate construction was indelicately construed by these ruffians. The lecturer bore these interruptions with singular good humour, and, with great *naïveté*, told them that by continually interrupting her they lost a great deal that would amuse them very much. Dr. Mary Walker rather astonished a lady who was sitting near her by suddenly turning round to her and making use of her head as a diagram, or "fearful example," when occasion arose for it. Dr. Mary Walker, notwithstanding her male attire and her profession, is not above her sex's weakness on the subject of dress. She told us how she had fought against stays, and how she struggled into "pantalettes;" how she found that white pantalettes were inconvenient, because they had to be so often changed; how people implored her, but in vain, to dress as other ladies dress, and how she resolutely refused to do so because a lady was killed once in a carriage accident, in consequence of retaining her seat from a fear that, if she jumped out of the carriage, her clothes would "catch." She entered at great length into the advantages of Bloomerism, or at least that form of it which she herself adopted; and told us a pathetic tale of a wounded soldier who wanted to kiss her—an anecdote which, I am sorry to say, raised a shout of laughter from an unsympathetic audience. Dr. Walker's manner is homely enough; but her self-possession under trying circumstances is extraordinary. I am afraid, however, that, unless she omits the "pathetic" portions of her lecture, together with her "appropriate action," which is funny to the last degree, she will have some difficulty in finding an audience who are likely to sympathise with her discourses.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—It is understood that early in the new year the Great Eastern will be placed upon the gridiron at Liverpool and receive a thorough overhaul. She will afterwards be fitted with new screw-boilers, and internally equipped as she originally was for the conveyance of first-class passengers. The directors have gone to this expense, having chartered her for twelve months (with the option of the charter being renewed) to a French company, who intend to employ her during the greater part of next year in bringing passengers from New York to Brest for the Exhibition. She will make her first trip to New York in March.

DOM MIGUEL OF PORTUGAL.

THE Carlsruhe papers of the 16th announce the death of a person who once made a great noise in the world, but whose very existence has been for the last twenty years utterly forgotten—Dom Miguel of Braganza. He had a stroke of apoplexy on the 14th inst. and died the same night, at Brombach, in the grand duchy of Baden. He was born in October, 1802, and had consequently completed his sixty-fourth year. He was the third son of King John VI. and of the Spanish Infanta Charlotte, sister of Ferdinand VII., and therefore nephew of Don Carlos, so long the Pretender to the Crown of Spain. When Portugal was invaded by the French and the Royal family emigrated to Brazil, Dom Miguel was only six years old. On the death of Queen Maria, in 1816, her son, who had been proclaimed Emperor of Brazil, was also proclaimed King of Portugal, but did not return to his European States until 1821. The education of his son Miguel had in the mean time been grossly neglected; indeed, it is said that on his return to Portugal he did not know how to read or write, his sole accomplishment being some skill in fencing. His uncle, Don Carlos of Spain, was simply a bigot; Dom Miguel was a compound of folly, bigotry, ignorance, and wickedness. He had scarcely returned to his native country when he rebelled against his father, at the instigation of his mother, who wanted to restore Absolutism instead of the Constitutional form of government which her husband found established by the Cortes during his long absence. The rebellion broke out in 1822, but was put down. Miguel obtained his father's forgiveness on his solemn promise of never again misbehaving. Promises had but little weight with such a person. He repeated his attempt the following year; again sought, and again obtained, pardon, and was even gazetted Generalissimo of the Portuguese armies. He made a third attempt in 1824, and had some temporary success. He arrested and imprisoned his father's Minister, and drove the King from Lisbon. A restoration was soon afterwards effected, owing to the vigorous interference of the foreign Ambassadors. This time both Dom Miguel and his mother were banished the kingdom. They at first took up their residence in Paris, and then proceeded to Vienna.

King John died in 1826, and his eldest daughter, Isabella Maria, was proclaimed Regent. Her brother, Dom Pedro, who had succeeded to the throne of Brazil, and who, as the eldest son, was the legitimate heir to the Crown of Portugal, made over his rights to the latter kingdom to his daughter, Dona Maria da Gloria. Hoping to put an end to the family dissensions which were the scandal of Europe, he offered his daughter's hand to his brother, with the title of Regent—Dona Maria being a minor. Though the functions of Regent were hardly compatible with the position of consort of the Queen Regnant, Miguel accepted the offer, and, after much hesitation, consented to take the oath to the Constitution. His oath was as little to be relied on as his promise. One of his first acts on arriving at Lisbon in 1828 was to dissolve the Chambers; and, to justify his usurpation, he convoked the old Constituent Cortes—for *plébiscites* were not then in fashion—who proclaimed him King. He broke his promise of marrying his niece, who was on her way to Portugal when she was forbidden to land, and had to proceed to England with the intention of returning to Brazil. Generals Palmella and Villalor (afterwards Duke of Terceira) attempted to strike a blow for the Constitutional Queen. They were defeated and the insurrection of Oporto put down. The partisans of Dona Maria repaired to the island of Terceira, the only part of the Portuguese dominions where her cause was then openly maintained. Dom Miguel was, of course, recognised as the legitimate King of Portugal by his uncle, Ferdinand of Spain, and by England as King *de facto*. On the death of the Queen-Mother, in 1830, the army and the finances were found to be in a most deplorable condition, and the tyranny and excesses of the madman at the head of the State became so intolerable that people who might otherwise have continued under his rule resolved upon a desperate effort to throw it off. Disaffection spread rapidly in Portugal; and as France, which had just made her own revolution, recognised Dona Maria, her partisans thronged to Terceira. A severe blow was inflicted on Dom Miguel by the capture of his fleet in the Tagus by the French Admiral Roussin in 1831. All these circumstances encouraged Dom Pedro to quit Brazil and put himself at the head of an expedition against his brother. The first success was the capture of the Azores, and, soon after, that of the important city of Oporto, when the Constitutional charter was solemnly promulgated in the name of Queen Maria II. Dom Pedro was aided by a considerable body of English and Irish volunteers, and Captain, afterwards Admiral Napier, took or destroyed in the most gallant manner the Miguelite fleet off Cape St. Vincent, at the same time that the Pedroite General Villalor made his triumphal entry into Lisbon, in July, 1833. The struggle lasted for some weeks in the neighbourhood of the capital; but Dom Miguel was at last forced to fall back on Evora. There he lost all hope of continuing it any longer. His uncle, Don Carlos, who was then near the frontier, and was trembling at the approach of Rodil, the Spanish General, tried to induce him to hold out until such time as he (Don Carlos) could send him an army from Madrid, when he was persuaded he should soon be installed King. Miguel, with all his folly, thought the chances of his uncle very slight. The Bishop of Leon, who afterwards played a considerable part in the Spanish war, was sent to him. "Sire," he said, "your Majesty has still a chance of recovering your crown; come with us to Madrid, for it is there you will find it." "I would not hesitate," was the reply, "but, unfortunately, I am convinced that not a single man would follow me." On the 26th of May, 1834, he signed the capitulation of Evora, in which it was stipulated that a pension of £2000 should be paid him "out of regard for his high birth;" and, moreover, that he was at liberty to dispose of all his private property in Portugal, "on condition of restoring the jewels and other objects of value which belonged to the Crown or to private persons;" also that he should quit Portugal within fifteen days, and bind himself not to return either to Portugal or Spain, or attempt to disturb in any way public tranquillity. In case he broke the engagement he was to forfeit all right to the pension. A ship of war was placed at his disposal for himself and his suite. Miguel signed the capitulation, but with the mental reservation of protesting against it the moment he could do so with safety. He embarked for Genoa, and thence proceeded to Rome, where he resided some years, and where he was treated as King of Portugal. He then took up his abode at Vienna, and finally fixed his residence in the duchy of Baden, where he died.

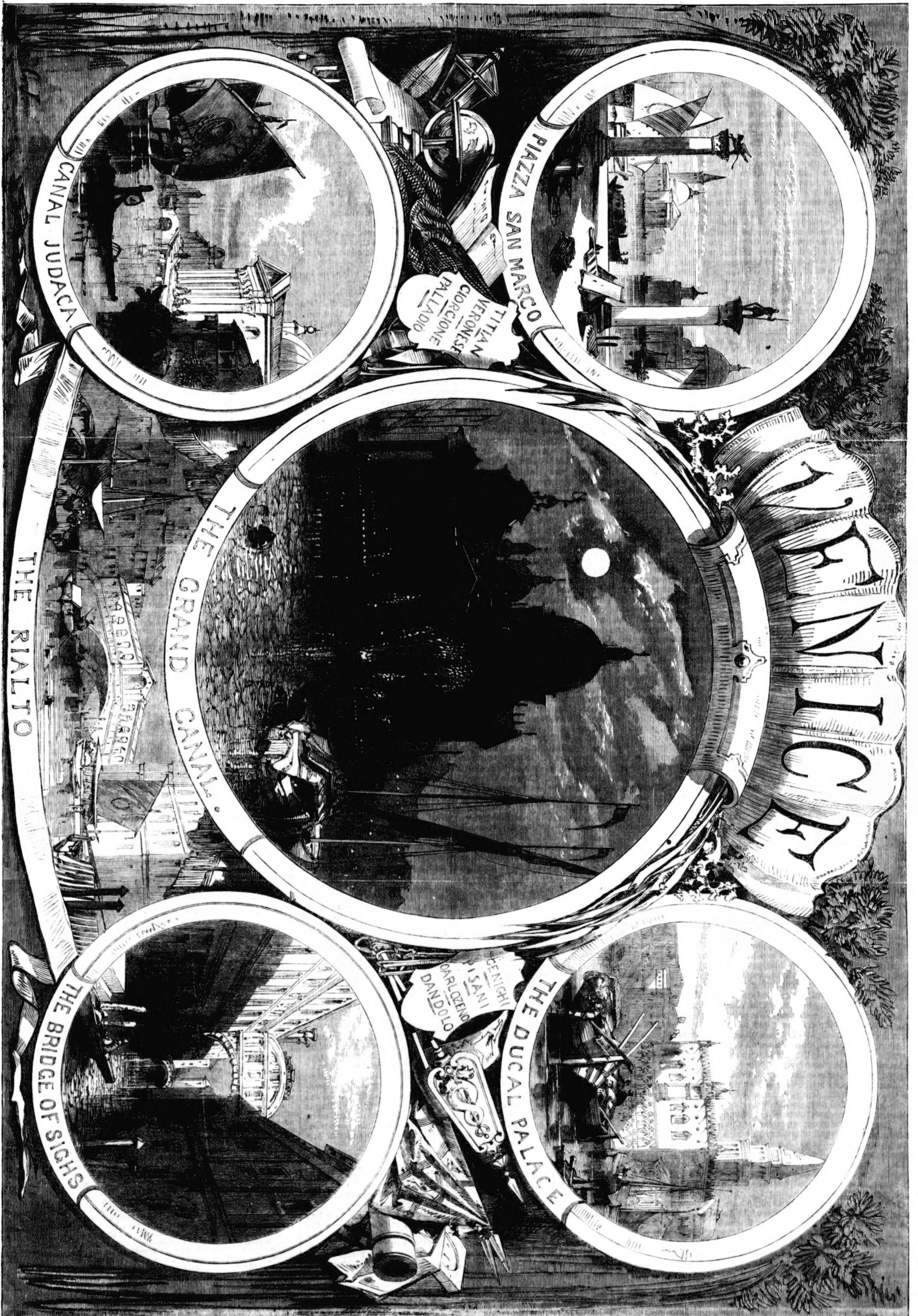
KINGSTON FAIR.

KINGSTON FAIR is one of the oldest fairs in England, and one of the most important in the southern counties, being, as a horse and cattle fair, only second to Barnet. It has not, however, any race-course attached, and therefore does not attract such an exclusively London class of buyers or people who go merely for pleasure. The fair proper is held in the market-place, in the middle of the town, round the old "King's Stone," about which there are a variety of legends and reputed facts. The horse and cattle fair is held outside the town, on a large piece of ground known as the "fair field." It is usually the scene of a gigantic gathering of horned cattle, but since the rinderpest made its appearance in this country cattle-fairs have been prohibited. This year, however, it was contemplated to resume the cattle-fair at Kingston, but at the last moment it was forbidden. Our Illustration is from a sketch of the horse-fair, which was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., and, as usual, presented many amusing features—gipsy horse dealers (or stealers) persuading would-be-horsey youths to buy animals of a doubtful character; roughriders galloping at full speed, showing off really sound animals; and the other ordinary "currents of a heady" market constitute the most prominent characteristics of the scene, and have been well rendered by our Artist.

A SHOCKING and all but incredible murder has been perpetrated at Sheffield by a young draper's assistant named Gabbitts, who deliberately stabbed, with a hammer fractured the skull of, another youth in the same establishment. The motive for the barbarous crime appears to have been revenge.



THE HORSE MARKET, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.



VENICE.

It would seem as though the last days of the Queen of the Adriatic would be better than the first, although she can boast such a glorious history that to be a citizen of Venice is almost equal to having a definite place in heraldic legends. The swift changes and tremendous events of the past few months have been fitly signalled by the resurrection of the most wonderful city in the world, where every monument records some great deed, and every public building recalls some old-world romance.

We have followed pretty closely the history of the war, the concessions, and the marvellous festivities which preceded and consummated the liberation of Venice; and, as the names of some of the particular localities have been constantly associated with all the special reports of the rejoicings, we this week publish representations of the most prominent of them. No other place in the world presents such superb specimens of architecture, and, assuredly, no other city could exhibit its treasures to such advantage; for its silent highway, its network of canals, take the place of noisy, dusty, and ever-changing streets, and the great monuments of antiquity show to strange advantage on the quays. To the site of Venice is perhaps to be referred not only a great part of its beauty, but a large proportion of its history. A long and narrow belt of land, very little raised above the level of the water, stretches from S. to N. along a portion of the Adriatic, and at the average distance of about four miles E. of the shore. A number of openings in this belt give access to the sea, which accordingly, filling all the space between the belt and the shore, forms a lagoon. In the northern portion of this lagoon a cluster of islets, to the number, it is said, of eighty-two, must at one time have been visible on its bosom, but are no longer, because the city has been built upon them, or rather upon piles driven into them, and they are concealed from view by its massive edifices, which, from whatever quarter they are viewed, have the appearance of floating on the sea. In regard to such a town, the ordinary language of description must be changed, and the visitor can gain no definite idea of it except by attending, not to its streets, but to the network of canals which wind among its islets and the numerous bridges which place them in communication with each other.

The chief of the more remote islands in ancient times was Isola de Rialto, Rivo Alto, the deep stream which served as a port to Padua; its name was afterwards conferred on the bridge connecting it with the opposite bank, and lastly to the Exchange, the Rialto of Shakespeare, which stands upon this island. It is extremely difficult to disconnect the "stones of Venice" from the history of the city, for its bridges and buildings are monuments of great deeds; but we have no space to follow the topography with the biographies of the Doges. These sixty islets clustering round Rialto were connected with bridges after Angelo Participazio had been elected chief magistrate for his able conduct in repelling the Lombards under Pepin in 809, and a new capital arose within this circuit, a cathedral and a ducal palace were founded on the site which they still occupy, and the name of the province on terra firma from which the citizens derived their origin was given to the metropolis which they were creating. Such was the birth of Venice.

It was later in her history, when the intrepid Ziani opposed the force of the Emperor Frederic and gave the protection of the Venetian arms to Pope Alexander III., that the great ceremony which confirmed the union of their city and the Adriatic—the wedding of Venice to the sea—was instituted. After the great battle off the Istrian coast, which lasted six hours, and when Ziani came triumphantly to land with Otho, the Emperor's son, as a prisoner, Alexander met them at Lido, and, presenting a gold ring to the Doge, said:—"Take this ring, and with it take, on my authority, the sea as your subject. Every year on the return of this happy day you and your successors shall make known to all posterity that the right of conquest has subjugated the Adriatic to Venice as a spouse to her husband." For more than six hundred years from this time (1177) every fresh return of the feast of Ascension witnessed the renewal of these figurative nuptials. The Doge and his *Clarusimi*, having heard mass in the church of San Nicolò, embarked on board the gorgeous Bucentaur, a state galley blazing with gold, enriched with costly ornaments, and preserving such fanciful identity with the original fabric as could be obtained by perpetual repair without total reconstruction. Gliding through the canals amidst the concourse of the people, and accompanied by festive shouts and triumphal music, the superb pageant arrived at the shore of Lido, near the mouth of the harbour, and there the princely bridegroom, dropping a golden ring into the bosom of his betrothed, espoused her with the brief but significant greeting—"We wed thee with this ring, in token of our true and perpetual sovereignty."

The relics and remains of St. Mark had already been obtained by a pious fraud from Alexandria, and the winged lion, emblem of the Evangelist, was adopted on the banners and escutcheons of Venice; the great square was named after the patron saint, and the battlement of the Venetian was "San Marco!" It was after the victory at Lido and the submission of the Emperor to the Pope, that the two magnificent granite columns which still adorn the Piazzetta of St. Mark were erected on their present site. They were among the trophies brought from Palestine by Dominico Michieli, the conqueror of Jaffa, Ascalon, and Tyre, on his victorious return, in 125; and it is believed that they were plundered from some island in the Archipelago. A third pillar, which accompanied them, was sunk while landing, and it was long before any engineer could be found to attempt to rear the remaining two, so that they lay neglected on the quay of the Piazzetta, looking towards the sea, for above fifty years. In 1180 Nicolò Barattiero, a Lombard, succeeded in the task; but we know nothing of the means he employed, except that he kept the ropes used to raise them continually wetted. The Government offered him as a reward whatever boon he chose to ask, and he demanded that games of chance, hitherto forbidden throughout the capital, might be played in the space between the columns, perhaps with a reservation to himself of any profits accruing therefrom. His request was granted, and the disgraceful monopoly became established; but afterwards, in order to render the spot infamous and to deter the populace from frequenting it, it was made the scene of capital executions; and the bodies of countless malefactors were thus gibbeted under the very windows of the palace of the chief magistrate. A winged lion in bronze—emblem of the patron saint—was raised on the summit of one of the columns; and the other bore a statue of St. Theodore, a yet earlier patron of the city, armed with a lance and shield, and trampling on a serpent. It would be impossible to identify the great buildings with all the events with which they are historically connected. In the fierce wars of Guelph and Ghibelline and the doings of the Council of Ten, the Venetian palaces, the bridges, and the places of public resort were all connected with the changes of the Government and the vicissitudes of the glorious city so surely hastening to its fall after its culmination had been achieved. Marino Faliero, the Doge whose name is most familiar to English ears—the chief magistrate whose reign began by the ill-omen of his boatmen landing him, amidst the fog through which they missed the quay, between the pillars of San Marco (the place of public execution)—was a type of the fall of Venice.

As the district of San Marco, with its great square, and the Piazzetta, with the grand columns and the ancient palace of the Doges, is the principal quarter of the city, so, of course, the chief thoroughfare is the Grand Canal, the entrance of which is shown in our central Engraving, where the Dogana, or custom house, and the magnificent Church of Santa Maria della Salute, built as a votive offering by Palladio on the cessation of the plague, in 1632, are the principal objects. The Grand Canal, which is from 100 ft. to 180 ft. wide, and through a number of serpentine windings divides the city about equally, is lined on both sides with buildings, many of them magnificent palaces of marble, and so close to the water's edge that passengers from gondolas can step into the very doorways. It is a wonderfully animated scene, this great waterway, and is only crossed by one bridge—the single-arched bridge of the Rialto, which is unrivalled in Venice. The other canals branching off from the Grand Canal, and from each other, are narrower and shorter; one of the most picturesque of them is

the Judaea or Giudecca, distinguished by the exquisite Church of Il Santissimo Redentore, built after the staying of the plague in 1576, and regarded as one of Palladio's finest structures. The bridges across the minor canals are so numerous that no fewer than 360 have been counted; but as they are built high enough for the passage of the gondolas, and were erected before horizontal bridges were invented, they mostly go up steps, an arrangement which makes a walk through Venice a matter requiring some amount of training. There are, of course, streets, but few of them are of any great width—the Maceria and the piazzas being the most distinguished as carriage-ways and fashionable resorts. These, in fact, form two main branches at right angles to each other, and are united by the basilica of St. Mark and the Ducal Palace, a strange Saracenic edifice of the fourteenth century, believed to be the work of Calendario, but singularly interesting. The Piazza is about 200 ft. long and 100 ft. broad, and it is here that the great meetings have been held during the recent festivities. It is by far the finest part of the city, contains some of the most remarkable buildings, and is lined by arcades, with handsome shops and cafés. The first which claims attention is the ancient palace of the Doge, the Palazzo di San Marco, which dates from the tenth century, but was reconstructed in 1354 by Marino Faliero, and has since received many beautiful additions. The style of its architecture is Gothic, but in many of the alterations a mixture of Italian has been introduced. It is in the form of an irregular square, two of its sides resting on double ranges of arches rich with exquisite tracery, which gives the massy bulk of the columns an appearance of lightness; the interior is adorned by pictures, frescoes, and carvings, to give a list of which would be to name the most eminent masters, beginning with Titian. The palace is connected with the public prison by the celebrated Ponte-de-Sosperi—the Bridge of Sighs—the name of which it is to be hoped will now be but a record of the darker shadows of a past history.

THE YORKSHIRE WOLD TUMULI.

A MONTH'S diggings in the British barrows of the chalk districts of Yorkshire, undertaken for scientific purposes by the Rev. W. Greenwell, of Durham, was brought to a conclusion on the 3rd inst. During the month about twenty barrows of all sizes, but all of the round form, have been opened and their structure and contents most carefully investigated and recorded. These hives have been chiefly on the estates of Lord Londesborough and Sir Tatton Sykes, and the openings have been made on the North Wold range at Sherburn and Ganton, on the South Wold range at Eanthorpe, and on the Mid-Wold range at Weaverthorpe and Helpertorpe. Thus the sepulchral mounds of the pre-Roman races of both types of crania and of both methods of burial—cremation and inhumation—have been met with. The greater part of the examinations have been made in the graves of a non-metal-using people. The only trace of metal found has been of bronze, and this was on the Helpertorpe Wold (mid range), where one of the skeletons in a barrow which proved very prolific was found interred with his right hand holding his bronze spearhead—a very beautiful and valuable example of an ancient weapon. Apart from all this, all implements found have been of stone—flint, quartz, or porphyry. Evidence of grave-feasting, further substantiating the charges of cannibalism against the pre-historic peoples, have been found; and, generally, results of an important and highly interesting nature have been arrived at. The investigations have caused remarkable interest among archaeologists; and among the gentlemen interested in antiquarian matters who have accompanied and assisted the Rev. Canon Greenwell are Sir Tatton Sykes, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. John Evans (author of papers on "British Coins" and "The Drift Flints"), of Hemel Hempstead; the Rev. F. Porter, of Yedingham; the Rev. J. Mason, of Sherburn; Mr. W. Lovel, Helpertorpe; Mr. Southwell, Winchester, Illinois, United States; Mr. Pycock, Malton; Messrs. J. R. and R. Mortimer, Fimber; Mr. Monkman, Malton; Mr. E. F. Cobb, London; Mr. Thomas Brand, Luton; Mr. J. W. Barnes, Durham; and several other gentlemen and lady visitors.

The concluding openings of the week, in continuation of those of the previous three weeks, are as follows:—The first barrow investigated was of 20 yards diameter, and 4 ft. high, made of soil, mixed with chalk, and situate upon the Mid-Wold range, south of Weaverthorpe. Four yards south-east of the centre a large plain urn was found among soft, unctuous, black earth, containing much charcoal and a great number of flint flakes, among which was one long flint scraper and some animal bones. The dark matter extended over the surface for a space of 4 ft. diameter, and varied from 2 in. to 6 in. in thickness. Just south-south-west of the centre the occipital part of a human skull of a young person was found, and close to it a pelvic bone, femur and other leg bones; and at the opposite side the greater part of a dolichocephalic skull of a female, placed with the head to the west. This mixture of disjointed bones lay on the surface. With the bones of the female was a large rolled quartz pebble, showing much sign of use as a hammer or pounder—a fine specimen. In the centre, and just north-east of these disjointed bones, was a body laid on the left side, with head to the east, the body doubled up, the right hand on the lower part of the chest, the left on the right elbow. Behind the head was an ornate drinking-cup. Before the face—in fact, close to the nose—was the nasal bone of another skull, of which the frontal portion was found 2½ ft. above, and which seems to have belonged to the same skull of which the occipital part was first found. But why this strange disturbance? There was nothing to guide to a satisfactory answer. Between the previously named black deposit and the centre of the house was another and smaller and thinner deposit of dark matter, the result of great burnings probably, also containing many flint chippings and flakes. Among the material of the house, casually thrown in during formation, were a small thumb-flint, some flint flakes and chippings, and several animal bones, split longitudinally for obtaining marrow.

Two days following were spent on the same range, but on the Helpertorpe Wold, about a mile to the west, in examining an irregularly-shaped mound about 15 yards mean diameter and 3 ft. high, apparently the westernmost of two barrows. About twenty years ago a great quantity of soil was removed from this mound, during which work the remains of several bodies were met with and destroyed. Among the materials of the mound remaining were found animal bones, two pieces of British pottery, a jet button, and two large jet ornaments (part of a necklace), rectangular, 1 in. by 1½ in., and about one eighth of an inch thick, longitudinally pierced by four holes, for stringing, and ornamented in saltire pattern of punctured holes. In the centre of the mound was a large cist sunk into the solid chalk rock, funnel-shaped, narrowing gradually downwards. The upper diameter was 10 ft., the lower 5 ft. by 3 ft., the hole 7½ ft. below the natural surface. In the chalk rubble filling it were several animal bones, some charcoal, and a few human bones, all detached; but there was no systematic burial. This was a most puzzling cist, particularly as the ground showed no signs of any previous disturbance since the cist had been first filled up.

On the same range, but one mile to the north, on an opposite slope, the third barrow was opened—a most prolific burial-mound. This house was greatly ploughed down; so much so, indeed, that it occasioned the greatest surprise to the archaeologists to find the remains so little disturbed by the plough. The mound was 54 ft. diameter by 1½ ft. high, and formed of the ordinary wold soil. The several interments in this very rich barrow were arranged in a line running north-west and south-east, and with the exception of the most central, were all on the natural surface. Eighteen feet east-south-east of the centre a body, or possibly some bodies, had been burnt on the spot, the signs of intense burning being found over a large surface, and the mass being as hard as concrete, showing fused flint, lime, charcoal, and burnt human bones, forming a breccia only separable by forcible use of the pickaxe. Except in its uniform hardness, this material resembled the supposed adipose contents of the long barrow on Willoughby Wold, which analysis showed to be burnt flint only, with a slight trace of animal matter. Thirteen feet east-south-east of the centre was a body in a contracted position, laid on

the left side, the knees of which very nearly touched the mass of burning. This body was perfect in every way. The head lay to the north-west, the left hand was up to the face, the right hand was on the fore-arm of the left. At the crown of the head were a short bone pin and a rounded quartz pebble, and there was much charcoal around and beneath the skull. The detached femur of a young person was laid across the skull; and near the face, in front of the body and about the pelvis, were various parts of burnt human bone. Seven feet east-south-east of the centre (probably at first the original centre) was the broken-up body of a child, the bones deposited about 6 in. above the surface, and most strangely in disorder. The skull had first been placed on the ground, and the leg-bones placed over it, the pelvic bones and ribs coming last of all, on the top. This child had been thoroughly dismembered before burial; but, still more strangely, immediately south-east of the child's bones were three trunkless skulls of adults, placed in a triangle, all with their frontal parts to the west. The one nearest the child's body was erect, and had lost the calvarium by the plough, and to this head were the cervical vertebrae, one clavicle, and some ribs. The other two skulls were both inverted, and the plough had taken away the lower jaws; but the face-bones and calvaria were good. Where were the bones of these three bodies? Were they burnt on the funeral pyre? The answer is wanting. Below the three skulls was an oval cist in the rock of 3½ ft. by 2½ ft. and 1½ ft. deep. This cist was full of burnt matter—some charcoal and parts of burnt bones. Were these from the first-named burning? Six feet west-north-west of the centre another body was found on its left side, contracted, head to the east. The right hand was on the knees, the left up to the face. The right hand held the handle of a very fine bronze dagger or spear, the point of which touched the chin. The weapon was in beautiful preservation, and the two rivets which had fastened the handle to the blade still remained, even the mark of the outline of the handle being visible. The end of the handle had been of bone, and along the line of decayed matter between it and the spearhead were found three more bronze rivets, which had apparently fastened together the two pieces of wood forming the centre part of the weapon. The weapon is a most perfect specimen, the blade being 4½ in. long and very thin and sharp. Some few flint chippings and two fragments of urn were found among the materials of this house. The skulls will all re-erect, and show the type.

The last barrow opened was on the North Wold range, two miles north of Helpertorpe. This formed one of three, of which one was opened some time ago, and yielded an unburnt body, the skull of which Mr. W. Lovel, of Helpertorpe, has presented to Mr. Greenwell. The barrow was 24 yards in diameter and 4 ft. high, composed chiefly of earth, with a little admixture of chalk. From among the material two pieces of pottery (urn), some flint chippings, and one rudely-formed barbed arrow-head of flint were taken.

In the centre of the mound a grave was found, sunk into the rock, 6 ft. by 4 ft. 9 in. and 3 ft. deep, oval in shape, and filled in with earth, with here and there lumps of chalk. This cist contained the body of a young man of about twenty years, laid on the left side, body contracted, head to north, left hand to the back of the head, with the fingers doubled in and right hand up to the chin. This was the only burial in this large tumulus, and there was nothing with it. The skull in the frontal part was gone; but the rest, though crushed, will put together and show the type. The face, being uppermost, was in contact with the most earth, and was most decayed.

This, for the present year, concludes the highly important and extremely interesting researches among the British tumuli in Yorkshire, and the results arrived at will be incorporated in the forthcoming "Decade of Skulls from Ancient Northumbria," announced for publication by the Rev. W. Greenwell, at whose cost the whole of the investigations have been made.

OCEAN MAILS.—During the year 1865 the steam-ships of the Peninsular and Oriental Company performed 384 voyages from Southampton and Marseilles under their India and China mail contracts. This represents a total distance of 1,023,792 miles. The number of first-class passengers conveyed outwards was 2891, and homewards 2448, at an average charge, including all provisions, wines, &c., of from 24s. to 34s. per mile for each passenger. These vessels are found to consume more coal, and to travel slower, when transferred from the Mediterranean to the Indian sea, the increase in consumption of fuel averaging about 1 cwt. per mile for each ship, the average decrease of speed being from one to six furlongs per hour. During the last seven years this company has added twenty-eight ships to its fleet, which represents collectively a carrying capacity of 48,986 tons, and a propelling force of 10,190-horse power. During the past year these ships have conveyed outwards from Southampton 746 tons of mails, consisting of 17,839 packages, at an average speed of from nine to ten nautical miles per hour.

HOW TO MANAGE THE RITUALISTS.—A correspondent tells a story of a dispute, about the beginning of the present century, between a new Incumbent of an agricultural parish on Salisbury Plain and his parishioners, consisting of half a dozen farmers and their labourers. The predecessor of the new Incumbent had never read the Athanasian Creed, and everything had gone on most harmoniously. The latter, however, in spite of the entreaties of the farmers, persisted in reading it. Another remonstrance before the day for the objectionable ceremony was met with another refusal; but the farmers assured their Incumbent, good-temperedly, that he should never read it again in their church. Finding from the Prayer-book that the Creed in question was to be either "said or sung," the choir practised the singing of it secretly in a barn, and when the time for reading it arrived, they took it out of the parson's mouth, and sung it through to a rattling hunting tune. This defeat was accepted, and the Athanasian Creed not repeated afterwards by the Incumbent.

AGRICULTURE IN NORFOLK.—The following important resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture on Saturday:—"The Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture, deeming it necessary that permanent arrangements should be made by Government to regulate cattle traffic, so as to prevent as far as possible the future introduction and spread of contagious and infectious disorders, respectfully recommend the following suggestions:—1. That the importation of foreign stock should be confined to certain ports specially licensed by Government, which ports should be provided with suitable markets, slaughter-houses, and quarantine grounds. That all foreign fat stock should be slaughtered at such ports, and that all foreign store stock should be subjected to twenty-eight days' quarantine before they are permitted to move inland. 2. That, should the rinderpest be again imported or break out afresh in any part of this kingdom, the slaughtering and compensating powers of the Cattle Diseases Act of February last should at once be put in force. 3. That stringent regulations should be made with regard to the expeditious transit and watering of animals conveyed on railways, and that a thorough cleansing of all trucks, pens, and layers, and the proper space and ventilation of the holds of cattle-boats, should be enforced by Government superintendence. 4. That the wilful exposure of any animal suffering from such contagious or infectious diseases as rinderpest, pleuro-pneumonia, sheep-pox, scab, or glanders, in any market or fair, or upon any highway, railway, or boat, should be an offence punishable by fine or imprisonment." Mr. C. S. Read, M.P., and Mr. E. Howes, M.P., were present at the meeting at which this resolution was adopted.

WORKING THE TELEGRAPH.—The high scale of charges which has been fixed for messages through the sub-Atlantic cables has led to the establishment of a system of "working the telegraph" by no means advantageous to the Anglo-American or Atlantic Telegraph companies. The plan adopted is similar to that of "parcel-packing" by carriers, which has been the source of so much litigation on our railways. The charge of £20 for a message of as many words—or £10, the reduced price—includes the name and address of the sender and receiver, and the date of the message; thus practically limiting the number of words in the shortest message that can be sent to some fourteen or fifteen. For instance, "Brown and Co., Broadway, New York, to Robinson, Leadenhall-street, London," takes off a very large proportion of the message, each word representing a charge, at the present reduced scale, of 10s. Now, the combination of packers in London or New York were not slow to perceive that in these names and addresses on each message there existed a very profitable field for enterprise. On each side of the Atlantic the "packers" have a number of clients for whom they transmit or receive the messages at a price considerably below the tariff of the company. Each of these customers or clients has a corresponding figure or letter by which he is known; so that, instead of sending some eight or ten words giving the names and addresses, the message is simply "A. B.," or any other two letters that may be agreed upon, the first representing the sender, the second the receiver, and thus a saving of some twenty per cent is at once effected. Beyond this, however, a very complete code is arranged between the "packers," by which the number of words in the messages is very greatly abridged. Half a dozen messages, for instance, directing different correspondents to buy or sell, may be "packed" in one message, and thus the repetition of many words be avoided. A variety of plans are adopted by which several messages are thus sent, or "packed," in one, and a very handsome profit is realised by the operators at the expense of the

REFORM DEMONSTRATION IN EDINBURGH.

THE working classes of Edinburgh enjoyed a holiday in the name if not in the cause of Reform on Saturday last. The preparations for a grand display had been going on for weeks, and the demonstration turned out a very successful one in the most important points—good weather and numbers. Had the lashing rains of the previous day, by any unhappy fortune, occurred on Saturday instead, the display would have been ruined, and the sick-list of the community would have been grievously lengthened. As it happened, however, the morning was clear, crisp, and frosty, with the thermometer several degrees below freezing, and the ground bore an icy crust as hard as rock. The day was fortunately also sunny, and the banners and devices, as they gathered on Bruntsfield Links, had a showy and glittering appearance. The adjoining towns had been invited to join in the demonstration, and accordingly at an early hour several thousand men marched up from Leith, while the trains brought in large provincial accessions. Bruntsfield Links is the "common" of the ancient borough, and offered a commodious muster-ground—sufficient, indeed, for 60,000 to 100,000 men had they been there. By ten o'clock nearly all the trades had arrived, headed by their bands or pipers; and about an hour was spent in the difficult task of marshalling, which was, all things considered, very successfully performed. There was a large number of spectators assembled on the muster-ground, but the principal part of the intending sightseers had taken up their places in the line of streets—about three miles—which the procession had to traverse. It was about a quarter past eleven that the head of the procession started from Barclay church, led by the Edinburgh and Leith carters mounted. The route was by Lothian-road, Charlotte-square, West George-street, South Hanover-street, East Princes-street, North-bridge, the lower part of High-street and Canongate to the Queen's Park, which the Commissioners of Woods and Forests had freely granted as the place of meeting. The head of the procession reached the Register House a minute or two after twelve, and an hour and five minutes elapsed before the rear was brought up. In Princes-street and North Bridge there was an immense number of spectators, representing all classes of the community, while in the lower part of High-street and Canongate there was a dense mass, chiefly of the lower ranks. The procession marched very quickly, the pace being at least three miles and a half an hour, and by the time the head of it reached the Queen's Park the rear was only leaving the Links. The line was, on the whole, pretty compact, and good order was observed both by processionists and spectators. Occasionally loud cheers were given by men and lads elated by the display, the concourse of spectators, and the pleasure of the rapid walk.

Like most of the Reform demonstrations, that of last Saturday was chiefly remarkable as a holiday turnout. All the stock flags and devices used on occasions of display were brought out, and this occasion had, of course, stimulated very greatly the production of new ones. Some of the Reform flags of 1832 once more appeared to view, and were duly labelled, that all might know of their former service in the cause. A good many Glasgow flags were seen, having evidently been borrowed from the western city. Among the political squibs we observed "The Elcho Challenge Shield for 1865," field sabbie surmounted by death's head and crossbones, and trimmed with crape and white muslin. A full-sized straw effigy, with wax head and good wig, wearing straw coat and top boots, was carried, bearing the inscription, "Our County Member." A Haddington banner bore the words, "There's hope for Had'ton yet," with three asses' heads, respectively titled Elcho, M.P.; Sam Laing, and Bob Low, with the line below, "The happy and increasing Family of the Adulterers." But it was evidently found easier to represent the cave than to spell its name, various spellings of which were to be found in the course of the procession; while one of the trades claimed "manhood suffrage," another sought "vote by ballot," and another patriotically entwined a dedication to "the rose, thistle, and shamrock." Some of the trades' mottoes had an appropriate reference to their manner of doing the reform work. The brushmakers proposed to make "a clean sweep of the Cave;" the wheelwrights to "put their shoulders to the wheel;" the bookbinders to "forward" and "finish" the work of reform; the engineers resolved "to keep the steam up;" the shoemakers held that there was "nothing like leather," if the Constitution was to wear; the "cabinetmakers" thought they should be the choosers of the Queen's Government; and the painters maintained that the edifice of the State could not be completed without a touch from the decorators. One trade exhibited the rather Conservative motto, "Tak' tent in time," which, however, was probably meant as a Scottishism for Mr. Gladstone's "Be wise in time;" but the great majority recommended, not caution, but action; and unity was specially enforced by mottoes and symbols. Mr. Bright's name was adopted by nearly every trade, and there were occasional references to Russell, Gladstone, Mill, and other friends of the popular claims. Mr. Lowe came in for the usual abuse, sarcasm, and small wit; and "Lowe's loaf" was represented somewhat absurdly by a halfpenny roll, while Mr. Bright was handicapped by several pounds extra weight. One banner bore the representation of a furnace and the inscription, "While Bright burns the fire of Reform, we will not fear the Low." A great many pretty trade models, some of them in mechanical motion, were exhibited; and the jewellers, glass-blowers, upholsterers, carvers, cabinetmakers, and others, each made a very attractive display.

The length of the procession made it, however, very tiresome. An hour's shivering in the cold was a pretty severe tax on the patience of most of the spectators, and there was rather an "ugly rush" to the public-houses before the procession got well out of the Canongate.

Owing to the coldness of the weather, the meeting in the Queen's Park was not so well attended as it would probably otherwise have been. Curiosity in the affair was undoubtedly weakened by the chill in the atmosphere. It is thought, however, that 40,000 mustered in the park behind Holyrood, a few hundreds being within earshot of the platform, while the thousands were well content to echo the cheers, to survey the scene, and have a rest and a chat after their hasty march. At each of the four platforms the following resolutions were moved and seconded in sensibly short speeches, and carried, of course, by acclamation:—

That this meeting protests against the present system of representation, whereby the people are amenable to laws in the making of which they have no voice, as being opposed to justice and to the spirit of the constitution of this country, and declares that no reform bill can be accepted as a permanent settlement of the question unless it includes registered and residential manhood suffrage, protected by the ballot.

That this meeting awards its heartfelt thanks to Earl Russell, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, John Bright, John Stuart Mill; Professor Fawcett, M.P.; Mr. W. O. Forster, M.P., and all other true friends of reform, for their patriotism in defence of the rights of the people in the late Session of Parliament.

That a petition, founded on the above resolutions, be drawn up and signed by the chairman of this meeting, and by the executive committee, and transmitted to Mr. Duncan M'Laren, M.P., for presentation; and that Mr. James Moncreiff, M.P., be requested to support the prayer of the same in the next Session of Parliament.

In the evening a meeting was held in the Corn Exchange for the purpose of confirming the resolutions passed at the day meeting. About 2500 tickets were distributed. The chair was occupied by Councillor Fyfe, who congratulated the meeting on the magnificent demonstration of the day—a demonstration so orderly, and displaying so much ingenuity and taste, and embodying so much intellectual and moral power, and, unlike the demonstration which took place before the Reform Act of 1832, unmarked by threats of violence, but imbued with the conviction that right would triumph over might.

Apologies were intimated from Mr. W. E. Baxter, M.P.; Mr. Graham, M.P.; Mr. Dalglish, M.P.; Mr. Potter, M.P.; Mr. Young, M.P.; Mr. Moncreiff, M.P.; and Mr. Murray Dunlop, M.P. Mr. M'Laren was the principal speaker, and, while disinclined to go the whole length of manhood suffrage, was decidedly in favour of a considerable extension of the suffrage.—*Times*.

THE LAST THREE ENGLISH BOOKS entered in the "Index Expurgatorius" at Rome, are "Ecco Homo," Dr. Pusey's "Eirenicon," and "An Essay on Pantheism," by the Rev. John Hunt.

Literature.

Griffith Gaunt; or, Jealousy. By CHARLES READE. Three vols. London: Chapman and Hall.

"This dramatic story, called by courtesy a novel"—such was Mr. Charles Reade's own description of "Christie Johnstone," embodied in the text of the book. Since that time, Mr. Reade has publicly declared before a Parliamentary Committee that he believes he has more natural capacity as a dramatist than as a storyteller pure and simple, and that he only writes novels because it is thankless and unremunerative work to write plays in the present state of the laws applying to the drama. "Griffith Gaunt," like the majority of Mr. Reade's narratives, is conceived dramatically, and is only by courtesy a novel. The characters are painted with a strong and rapid hand; they are disclosed to the reader in vehement, sudden flashes; the story is carried forward by the presentation of separate scenes which the narrator does not connect with the usual art of an accomplished raconteur, though there are no gaps; and, last not least, we recognise the actors in the tale rather by having their strong points forced upon us in jerks of action than by having their whole character gradually unfolded to us in light and shade, by touch after touch of a studious, exhaustive pencil. "Griffith Gaunt; or Jealousy," is the title of the book; and the leading idea is never lost sight of. This is a great merit, conceived as the work actually is; but with the name of what sort of leading passion could you label "Salem Chapel," or "Wives and Daughters," or "The Newcomes"?

Though "Griffith Gaunt" is not a novel proper, it is scarcely necessary to say—since it bears so distinguished a signature—that it is such a tale as nobody but Mr. Charles Reade could write, and worthy to take a place in the front rank of modern fiction. Mr. Reade has lost none of his old power of describing love matters with the very zest and aroma and innocence of youth. And this is a particular in which we believe he stands quite alone. Where is there such love-making as we find in these warm, sweet scenes between Griffith and Kate? There is no recipe for getting ground young again, but the nearest approach to one would be to take a course of Mr. Charles Reade's love stories.

The fuel out of which the flame of "jealousy" is kindled in this dramatic story is in Mr. Gaunt's heart; the spark is cast upon the fuel by Father Leonard, a young Roman Catholic priest, whom Mrs. Kate Gaunt is too much taken up with. It certainly seems to us that the provocation of the husband was great; and though this is a point in which we must be content with the sympathy of here and there a great soul like Milton's, it seems to us a very small matter that Mrs. Gaunt stops short before the point is reached at which, in our own day, a husband might apply to Sir James Wilde for a final release. However, this is a matter which we have not the space to elaborate, even if the subject itself were a "feasible" one. The trial of Mrs. Gaunt for her husband's "murder" is too long, but it is wonderfully done; and here again we have a matter in which Mr. Reade stands alone among storytellers. His intelligence, indeed, is a very curious and interesting combination of the dramatic and the forensic intelligence. Least of all do we like the conclusion of the story. It is rather strong to make Sir George Neville marry a vintner's daughter; but, granting as much as we grant to the fable of "Pamela" (and, of course, strange things always did and always will occur in love, and there is a wide gulf between *strange* and *unnatural*), what are we to say to Sir Anthony Neville's marrying the "cold morsel" on Cesar Gaunt's "trencher," when he had previously been defeated by the same hero in the battle for Kate's hand? That, too, may have happened; but it is not quite *delicately* conceived, we think. Mercy Vint is an extremely beautiful character; but we can hardly imagine a high-minded man like Neville marrying her, under the circumstances. The mere fact that it was necessary to kill Gaunt's baby before the wedding is enough to turn the edge of one's relish for this part of the narrative. Still, love is capable of working greater wonders than even such a marriage; and the one thing that seems to be the keynote of Mr. Reade's writings is "Love shall still be lord of all." It is not to be supposed he invented such a close to his drama without much deliberation; and we willingly reserve the point itself, with the observation that this great artist has certainly not succeeded in attaining a graceful verisimilitude in this part of his work.

Some of our readers will, perhaps, remember that, in another column, they were told that Mr. Reade's design was evidently to rebuke and shame the paltry tamperers with "bigamy" by doing the brave thing and the pure thing all at a stroke:—"I will make you read my story; yet it shall contain a real, not a sham, bigamy; and, in spite of the presence of this crime, it shall be as sweet as a haycock." In some such words we expressed, at the time the story was appearing in the *Argosy*, our sense of the author's design. He has since, in an indignant letter addressed to the editor of the *Round Table*, confirmed that guess. If we are asked how this great writer manages to keep his stories so pure and sweet, whatever events may be moving across the stage of his drama, we reply, by his exquisite—perhaps, in our own day, unrivalled—power of conceiving and presenting female innocence. There are some idiots who think a story cannot be moral if any one of the actors does a wrong thing in the course of it. But Ormuzd is greater than Ahoiman; and twenty Caroline Ryders cannot darken the page which is beautified and perfumed by a soul like Mercy Vint's. We cordially commend the book to our readers, and offer our thanks to Mr. Reade for a courageously conceived, courageously written, and honestly exhilarating story.

The Masque at Ludlow, and other Romanesques. By the Author of "Mary Powell." London: Sampson Low and Co.

In deference to a general demand for originality it is proper at once to say that in "The Masque at Ludlow" the author of "Mary Powell" is quite as much unlike most writers as she has been from the beginning. The system is to write of any time than the present, and to write in the style of the time certainly, and in the character of somebody of the time, if possible. This has generally been accomplished with a fair amount of success; and, although sometimes the effect may be tame, if not, indeed, tedious, we cannot help liking the literature, and seeing that there are vast numbers of very good and innocent readers for whom it is precisely suited. But some people would prefer their literature to be made, like their ambition, of sterner stuff; just as the nicest young ladies generally like a spice of the mischief-loving spirit in their adored Jack or Jim. Very likely such tastes are altogether wrong—out of taste, in fact; but yet every dinner-party knows at least one who thinks the wine is "damned with faint praise" when told that there is "not a headache in a hogshead of it." And we are quite sure that in literature, far more even than in life, people will be found to like their headaches. But here the quiet, steady heads are addressed; and those who please "to bellow for fresh punch at two in the morning," as Macaulay says, must go elsewhere. In "The Masque at Ludlow," the story of "Comus" is very prettily told in a series of letters and fragments, generally between Milton and Henry Lawes. The amiability of these immortal friends is shown in good language, together with the comparative roughness of the elder Milton, the imperious yet kindly nature of the Countess of Bridgewater, and, above all and testified by all who write, the beauty and endearing characteristics, the culture, and the budding genius of Lady Alice Egerton, the "lady in 'Comus.'" A light and pleasing sketch of a story, made lighter by the amusing boishness of the heavy cousin, who gets tipsy and cannot act; whereupon young Mr. Milton takes the part, and sets the little world in amaze at his varied powers. But, talking of being tipsy, when the amateur performance is finished, my Lord and Lady and their friends seem to conduct themselves at the banqueting-table like a set of hogs. But little Alice is in bed, not without a hot posset, though; and Mr. Milton has escaped, actually beaten a retreat from the onslaught of a draught of wine.

The second story is called "Immeritus Redivivus: a Romanesque,

Setting forth how England's arch-poe went into ye north countrie, and what ensued concerning the fair Mistress Rosalind." It is certain that Gabriel Harvey called his friend Edmund Spenser "Mr. Immerito" and "Signor Immerito," and it is equally certain that Spenser visited relatives in the north, near Carlisle, and fell in love. Here are presumed letters between Spenser and Harvey, in which the love-making or courtship of Edmund to Rosalind is quietly told, and the love—in legal language—is quashed. Harvey is amused; Spenser is wayward and dissatisfied; Rosalind is happy in other ways, and conducts herself much as Charlotte did to Werter. As Thackeray has it in verse, which is of the cruellest prose,

Like a sensible young woman,
Went on cutting bread-and-butter.

But it is to be feared that the modern-book reader will be careless of the claims of Signor Immerito.

A saint might be pardoned for being angry with Maria Galilei, who is supposed to print part of her diary to finish this volume, under the name of "The Daughter of Galileo." What the great man did and suffered is known; here is—to use Mr. Browning's Spanish title—"how it strikes a contemporary." Now, Miss Maria is fond of her father and all connected with him, and she seems inclined to become an astronomer on her own account. Unhappily, Galileo is twice summoned to Rome, and on the second visit he thinks it best to become an apostate of the first water. Maria "takes on" at this, and becomes a recluse, besides feeling ashamed of her father's dishonesty in denouncing as heresy all which she knows so well that he thoroughly believes. Maria's nicety of morals makes her forget the glorious science she was imbibing and drives her into a convent. Strangely enough, the beauty of her thin skin deprives her of a blue stocking! But we recommend the book—and also recommend Mrs. Somerville to be careful as to what she says of the Pope.

The Writer's Enchiridion; or, The Orthographer's Friend. By J. S. SCARLETT. London: Lockwood and Co.

Most writers are occasionally puzzled as to the doubling of consonants in verbs taking *ed, en, est, eth, ing, er, and or*, to form their several persons, present and past participles, and verbal nouns. Well, here is a little book which will be a great help in all such difficulties. Mr. Scarlett has collected between five and six hundred such verbs, and has given the proper spelling, with the affix as well as the meaning; so that his work constitutes both a vocabulary and a guide to orthography. We have only one objection to offer to the book, and that is to the title. It is a pity the compiler could not find a phrase to indicate the nature of his labour without going to the Greek lexicon for one.

A Tangled Web, and other Interesting and Amusing Stories. By Eminent Authors. Edinburgh: W. P. Nimmo.

This is the sixth volume of "Nimmo's Popular Tales," a work which we noticed some time ago. The present seems quite up to the level of the earlier issues of the series. It possesses all the merits and some—though in a modified degree—of the faults which we pointed out as distinguishing Mr. Nimmo's interesting collection of popular tales. We hope the series commands the public approval, and that it will go on from month to month waxing in worth and freeing itself by degrees of its few defects.

Original Penny Readings. A Series of Short Sketches. By GEORGE MANVILLE FENN. London: Routledge and Sons.

We noticed with approval, a week or two ago, a volume of papers for penny readings, issued by Mr. G. M. Fenn, and have now much pleasure in calling attention to a second volume by the same writer, which is as full of merit and as free from faults as its predecessor. These readings will certainly secure for Mr. Fenn a favourable position in public regard, a reward which his efforts thoroughly merit.

ANNUALS.

Warne's Christmas Annual, The Five Alls: A Collection of Stories. Edited by TOM HOOD. London: Frederick Warne and Co.

Routledge's Christmas Annual for 1867: An Entertaining Volume of Christmas Literature by the best Authors of the Day. Edited by EDMUND ROUTLEDGE. London: Routledge and Sons.

Old Merry's Annual, 1866. London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.

We class these three works together for the obvious reasons that they are of a kindred nature and are distinguished by similar characteristics. Thus, they are all three called "Annuals;" they are all designed for Christmas reading; they are all illustrated; and they are—the two first-named, at all events—got up in imitation, as it seems to us, of an annual which we suppose will not make its appearance this year. That these two volumes are issued by rival publishers, is a matter with which we have nothing to do. Let us say a word or two about each work in the order in which we have named them.

The "Five Alls," then, constitutes only a portion of Warne's "Annual." The remainder—and, indeed, the greater part—of the volume is made up of contributions from the pens and pencils of Artemus Ward, H. S. Leigh, Arthur Sketchley, Henry Saville Clarke, W. S. Gilbert, Walter Thornbury, W. Brunton, Ernest Griset, F. V. Chilton, Alfred Thomson, F. Barnard, Stirling Coyne, Clement W. Scott, J. Gordon Thomson, Matthew Browne, Andrew Halliday, William Sawyer, Dutton Cook, F. F. Broderip, J. E. Carpenter, and others. The "Five Alls" has reference to the famous tavern sign of the same name. It is prefaced by an introduction by Mr. Hood, and comprises a series of stories—namely, "The King's Story," by W. J. Prowse, showing that his majesty "rules all;" "The Parson's Story," by C. W. Scott, indicating that the parson "prays for all;" "The Soldier's Story," by T. W. Robertson, from which it appears that the soldier "fights for all;" "The Lawyer's Story," by W. S. Gilbert, in which the gentleman of the long robe shows that he "pleads for all;" and "The Farmer's Story," by T. Archer, from which we learn that the agriculturist "pays for all." Each part is well performed, and the whole volume is an excellent one for Christmas or any other season.

"Routledge's Annual" contains papers by the author of "East Lynne," and by C. H. Ross, Stirling Coyne, G. M. Fenn, Andrew Halliday, Thomas Miller, Arthur Sketchley, J. H. Friswell, F. C. Burnand, Amelia B. Edwards, and H. W. Longfellow. It also boasts illustrations from the pencils of Walter Crane, W. Brunton, C. H. Ross, &c. Of this volume, also, we may say that it is of more than the average merit of its class, and is suitable not only for Christmas but for "all the year round."

"Merry and Wise," edited by Old Merry, which is otherwise entitled "Old Merry's Annual," differs slightly from the other two books with which we have classed it; and yet, as it belongs to the order of "annuals," comes naturally in with the others. It is a publication which is issued periodically during the year, and is now collected here in a volume at the close. It contains good reading, of the mild and rigidly moral and improving school, and makes promise (in the preface) of like entertainment in the year to come. We wish "Old Merry" health to fulfil his promises, and his readers capacity to enjoy the fruits of his labours.

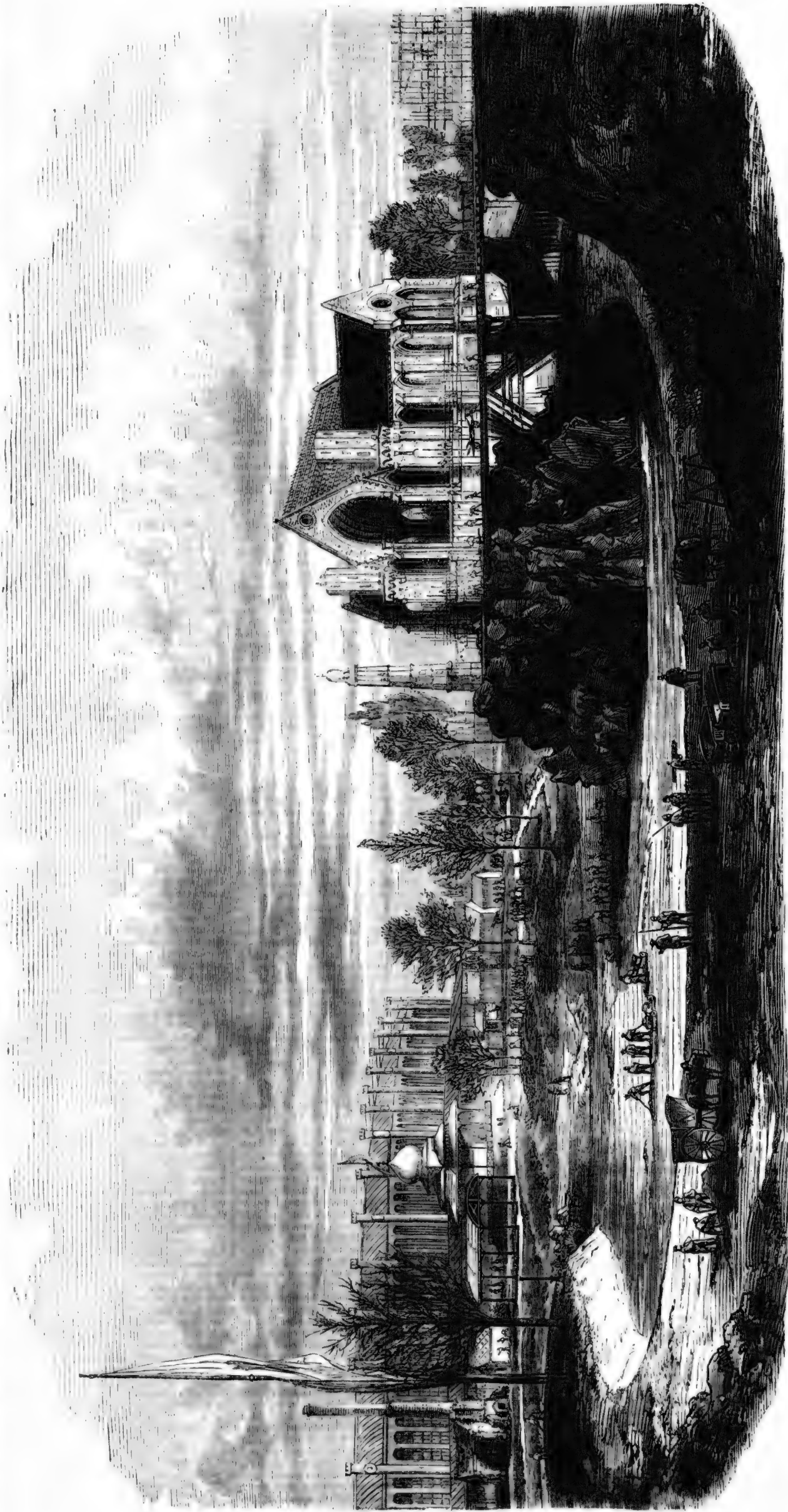
UNINTENTIONAL BIGAMY.—In 1858 the husbands of two women, Mrs. S. and Mrs. T., residing in Glasgow, disappeared, and shortly afterwards the dead body of a man was found in the Clyde. This was supposed to be the husband of Mrs. T.; but Mrs. S. insisted that the body was that of Mr. S., and her claim was admitted. The remains of the man were buried in due course, and the widow mourned as for the death of one whom she would never again behold. S., however, soon afterwards turned up in the flesh, and Mrs. T. then felt assured that the corpse she had seen was that of her husband. She now considered herself, and was considered by her friends, a widow; and, after the lapse of some years, she again married. Six or eight weeks ago, however, T. made his appearance in Glasgow; and it turned out that, since his disappearance, he had been living in England, working regularly at his trade.

THE EXHIBITION OF 1867.
It is now just possible to form an idea on approaching the Exhibition works from the Pont d'Iena of the effect that will be produced to the visitor in April next. The banks of the river to the west, and to the east of the bridge are covered with workmen. To the east will be all the hydraulic machinery, and hence the water will be supplied to the park; to the west a great covered wooden landing-stage approaches completion. On the west of the main entrance the broad and lofty front of the International Club appears. Topped with the tricolor, the roof is being rapidly covered in,

and the outline of the bazaar that are to be about the base of the building is now clearly defined. The exterior has a light and handsome appearance, and over the main entrance there is a design that appears to resemble very closely the group of France protecting Art and Industry, which dominates the main entrance to the Palais de l'Industrie in the Champs Elysées. The club authorities have at length issued a full programme of their intentions, and an explanation of the end the Imperial Commission had in view when it consented to extend its protection over them. The object, we are told, is to bring the manufacturers of all nations together, "in order to facilitate the realisation of that great unity, the foundation of which has been laid

by the recent commercial treaty." The vast central hall or *Salle des Passerelles*, is to be a universal exchange of commercial ideas. Here "the practical men of every country are to discourse on commerce and initiate new branches of trade." On all sides writing-desks will be arranged, where agreements will be drawn up, or where suggestions may be put down in black and white. Men of business may each have their private letter-boxes. Information of every conceivable description relating to the Exhibition will be kept ready to the members' hands. A private telegraph service, held in communication with the more important Stock Exchanges of Europe, will keep the members informed on

the prices of the day at the earliest possible hour, and will enable them to communicate from their club with the most distant parts of the Continent—nay, from his club-hall by the banks of the Seine, the American citizen will be able to speak to his agent at New York. The great club-hall is to be "the exchange of the merchandise of the world—a model exchange, where business transactions will be carried on in sight of the very products which create them." In addition, all the ordinary conveniences of a first-class club are promised. The qualifications for admission are reasonable enough:—"All exhibitors will have the right to be admitted to subscribe as members of the club; persons who do not exhibit will also be admitted, pro-



THE PARIS EXHIBITION BUILDINGS: STATE OF THE WORKS ON THE NORTH-EAST.

vided they are presented by two exhibitors or by their diplomatic agents or consuls in Paris.
There are dozens of happy enthusiasts who are dreaming that next year will bring them an immense fortune. One man is to reach his El Dorado through the manufacture of glass cases; while another is to become rich by laying in an extraordinary store of hams for the millions of foreigners. Every person who has a project in hand or an idea needing ventilation turns to the Champ de Mars. The last development of the mania is a petition from a certain number of Parisian ladies of distinction to the Imperial Commissioners praying for the concession of space in the park where they may hold a permanent bazaar in favour of the victims of the

late inundations. The object in view is a worthy one: but is an international exhibition exactly the place for carrying it out? The park is much over-crowded already. Now that the buildings planned about it are mostly in a forward state, there appears to be danger of its becoming mere rows of buildings, with patches of trees and flowers intervening. Some of the buildings are of great extent—the Egyptian temple and dependencies, over which the flag of the Viceroy of Egypt is planted, for example. To the left of the main entrance the great edifices for the exhibition of ecclesiastical ornaments, the highly ornate Imperial reception-rooms, a lofty lighthouse, and loftier chimneys, almost fill up the space. The patches of green between are narrow and insignificant. The rise and fall of the land have

been managed with great artistic skill, especially where the park dips to the basin on the east; but still the buildings overwhelm the park, at least in this direction; and there is certainly no room for a bazaar.

The embellishment of the arms of various nations and towns and cities on the outer pillars of the Exhibition building gives the gaiety to its appearance which is much wanted. The great hall which is to lead from the main entrance to the central court is now progressing at a rapid rate; and the fine proportions of this main feature of the Exhibition are now faintly realisable to the spectator's eye. The glazing and flooring are progressing in downright earnest, and broad finished galleries stretch on all sides, ready to the exhibitor's hand. With such rapidity, indeed, is every

part of the plan now advancing, that the authorities feel confident of being easily ready for the appointed opening day. The amount of work that has been done during the last two months is extraordinary. The railway station, the river landing-stages, the club, the long eastern gallery for the exhibition of railway material and breadmaking, and the immense remise for carriages, have been run up as if by enchantment. Every day there is perceptible progress.

It is curious to remark the various ways in which the idea of giving great prizes "in favour of the persons, localities, or establishments which, by a special organisation or special institutions, have developed a spirit of harmony among all those co-operating in the



THE PLEBISCITUM IN VENICE: PEOPLE OF THE DISTRICT ST. MARK GOING TO VOTE.—SEE PAGE 323.

same work, and have provided for the material, moral, and intellectual well-being of the workman—it is curious, we repeat, to remark the various ways in which this proposition has been received and commented on. Ten prizes of £400 each, and a grand prize of

£4000, are tempting to utopian designers. The idea has been very generally attributed to the Emperor. His Majesty may be even a competitor. On the one hand, the International Congress of Working Men recently held at Geneva is supposed to have “inspired” the

idea; and, on the other hand, it is maintained that it is the natural crown of the Exhibition edifice. It is most probable, however, that this last plan, which has emanated from the Imperial Commissioners’ offices, has grown naturally out of that part of the Exhibition plan



ARTEMUS WARD IN HIS ENTERTAINMENT AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL.

which gives so large and honourable a place to labour in the forthcoming Exhibition. It has a very Napoleonic look about it. It is bold. It is essentially French. It is in harmony with the Imperial policy. It is an expression of most sympathetic concern for the well-being of the toiling millions. It is just the kind of idea in which the French mind (which has ever a strong bend towards social Utopias, and has made many daring experiments in quest of them) would revel. While French competitors will dream of brotherhoods and contrive many forms of amiable social life, free from the care of want and the degradation of vice, the English mind will enter the competition bristling with statistics and almost ashamed of the least sentiment. The *English Mechanic* for November, touching upon these prizes, says, "Two things the competition will do—it will enable a great many folk to blow their own trumpets, and it will let in a flood of light on the management of a great many works and partnerships of labour concerning which but very little is now known. And it is in this last aspect of the affair that good will be done." The writer then advises "a general furnishing up of all our gigantic factories, and all our co-operative societies, more particularly such places as the Messrs. Greenings, the United Tailors, &c.; for they may all enter for the race with their statistics jockeyed by their respective managers, and who knows but one may win the £4000 for our side of the Channel?" The list of schemes for the greatest happiness of the greatest numbers will be an exceedingly curious one. Some good will be done by putting together in direct contrast the ideas of various races on the subject of labour and wages, and capital, popular education, the maintenance of the poor, savings, systems of trade, &c. Some useful wisdom may be filtered out of the mass of schemes; and, in any case, the moral effect of such a contest—a contest in quest of Christian kindness, of the good of the whole family of man—will remain after next year; and a link will be established among the benevolent minds of many nations.

The Imperial Commission has decided that the ground lying between the quays and water of the Seine shall be connected with the Champ de Mars by two tunnels, and thus form a portion of the park. By this means the visitors who may arrive by steam-boat, either from Paris or Billancourt, will be able to land directly in the grounds.

It is no longer a joke. The wittlings of the *petite presse* must cease their banter. There is to be a line of conveyance through the air to the Exhibition. The talk about a *chemin de fer aérien* is quite serious. It is to stretch from Paris to St. Cloud, dropping travellers, I presume, at the Pont de l'Alma. The inventor is M. Seguin; and the engineer who is to realise M. Seguin's invention is M. Giffard, the known inventor of a tubular boiler. Moreover, the plain of Billancourt has been rented for the display of balloons, among which M. Nadar's Géant is to figure.

The literary world of France is also to have its share of the glory of 1867, in the shape of a wonderful book on Paris, which is preparing under the auspices of Victor Hugo's publishers. The various features of the capital are to be treated by the foremost writers of the day. George Sand, for instance, is said to have undertaken the promenades of Paris; Hugo is to write the preface, albeit he would hardly know his Paris now. Some notion may be formed of how fierce the contest for lodgings is becoming already by the fact that nearly all the rooms in the Grand Hôtel are retained for the Exhibition season. The Count of Flanders has hired a wing for himself and suite. Arsène Houssaye has let his little hotel to a Peruvian family, from next April till the close of the season, for 36,000f. Among the curiosities announced as on their way to the Champ de Mars, are oyster shells, fished in the Indian Ocean, that are one metre in length, and weigh 200 lb.

Of all the recently-constructed works of the Exhibition, however, perhaps the little church, erected on the left of the grand avenue of Jena and represented in our illustration, will not be the least curious. It is situated on the border of a lake, the middle of which is occupied by an imposing mass of rocks with a cascade descending from their heights. On the right is the bridge of Jena, on the left the Palace of the Exhibition itself, while in the rear is a small building surmounted by an Asiatic dome, which is the pavilion of the Emperor of Russia.

This church occupies a site of 1875 square metres, but is not yet completed. On the north side two clock-towers are being built. This monument in miniature is after the plans of M. Leveque, a glass-stainer of Beauvois, who represents artists and workmen combining to exhibit all the objects of art connected with ecclesiastical ornamentation—statues, altars and altar furniture, confessionals, vestments, instruments of music, organs of all dimensions, mural pictures, stained glass and widows, and other specimens of articles which will, no doubt, possess rare attractions for ritualistic visitors. The exterior of the building is designed to illustrate all those external decorations which especially belong to ecclesiastical architecture. This little church is divided in its length into three naves; while two chapels, opening on each side towards the portal, make it cruciform. It is lighted by four openings, which will be devoted to the various styles of painted windows.

ARTEMUS WARD.

THAT the generality of audiences prefer amusement to information, and would much rather laugh than learn, was a discovery quickly made by the late Mr. Albert Smith, when he returned from China to Piccadilly, resolved to enlighten as well as entertain the public with the result of his observations on the Celestial empire. A very few nights' experience demonstrated the policy of substituting the diverting anecdote for the instructive description, and in a short time our old acquaintances, first encountered on the ascent of Mont Blanc, reappeared upon the scene, and pushed aside the more novel personages that the entertainer had travelled some 20,000 miles to introduce. Brown on the Pyramids, and the stolid engineer Edwards on the Canton River, riveted attention at once; whilst young Ahoy the tailor, and even the great Yeh himself, were only politely tolerated. It is sufficiently obvious that Mr. Artemus Ward, who has brought to the Egyptian Hall the fruits of his experience both as a traveller and a lecturer, has long since arrived at a similar conclusion. He addresses himself to that sense of the ludicrous which finds a ready gratification in the utterance of a volley of quaint jests, and, though ostensibly describing the result of a journey from California through the Mormon territory, his lecture is essentially of a comic kind. The humour of the narration is felt to be of infinitely more importance than the information conveyed. Those who have made acquaintance with that eccentric brochure known as "Artemus Ward—his Book," in which a peculiar kind of Transatlantic fun is developed in pages full of orthographical perversities, would be quite prepared for some oddity of style in the matter as well as in the manner of the author's discursive discourses. The visitor to the Egyptian Hall would, however, speedily discover that the writer of those whimsical essays establishes his claim on public attention as a lecturer on far more substantial grounds. Any previous opinion that may have been formed with regard to the excessive "Yankeeism" likely to be displayed in the delivery of the entertainment would have to be considerably modified in the course of the evening. That an American who has appropriated the distinguishing name of "The Showman" should at once impress the auditor with an idea of extreme diffidence would hardly be among those expectations raised by the announcement of his arrival in this country; but it is undoubtedly the first result of the lecturer's appearance. Tall, slender, about thirty years of age, with an aquiline nose, bright, mischievous eyes, and a fair complexion, Mr. Artemus Ward presents himself on the platform as one who seems quite abashed at his own audacity in assuming such a position. He has hardly a trace of the accent common to his countrymen; and there is a gravity about his demeanour which appears in remarkable contrast to the droll speech in which he explains the nature of the entertainment he is about to give. Presently the jokes begin to crackle about the ear of the listener, and rapid explosions of laughter follow; but the solemnity of the speaker is undisturbed. It is this peculiar effect of unconsciousness in the delivery which is the chief charm of the quaintnesses that are uttered. Recorded in print, they would, perhaps, seem amusing absurdities; but they would never

provoke the merriment which here indicates the hearty enjoyment of the auditors. A practical exponent of the theory that wit consists in the surprise excited by the discovery of unexpected connections between ideas, Mr. Artemus Ward ingeniously exhibits this relationship in a very effective manner. The audience laugh at a fragmentary observation, which is sufficiently funny in itself; but, after a momentary pause, the laughter is redoubled by the complete sentence being delivered, which gives the entire meaning a different form to that anticipated. In the manufacture of what may be called duplicated jokes the lecturer is singularly expert; and those who would acquire a reputation for saying smart things might advantageously study the manner in which they are fabricated by the American humourist, so as to combine novelty of material with economy of production. Availing himself of those incidents of travel which occurred during a professional progress from California through Utah and across the Rocky Mountains to New York, Mr. Artemus Ward has made the staple of his narrative a description of a visit to the Mormons; but it is quite evident that any less-known route would have answered the lecturer's purpose quite as well. The discursive Artemus uses the land of Brigham Young chiefly as a field in which to sow his jokes; and it must be owned it yields a profitable harvest; but, as Swift wrote an essay on a broomstick, Mr. Ward could manifestly contrive to produce an entertainment out of the least-suggestive theme. It should be distinctly understood that, when describing the social features of that remarkable organisation which has excited so much attention by its rapid growth and peculiar institutions, the lecturer claims ten minutes' serious attention, and gives a really interesting account of his sojourn among the Mormons. The most inveterate opponent of didactic discourses need not, however, apprehend that he is in any danger of being merely informed when he comes to be amused. The quips and cranks of the early stage of the entertainment are but so many fresh themes for quaint commentaries; and even the capture of the lecturer by the Indians is only regarded as affording good material for a "taking" anecdote. The "Showman," as he delights to style himself, quizzes with evident enjoyment the peculiarities of the class to which he affects to belong; and the illustrative panorama, described as being "rather worse than panoramas usually are," is only to be looked upon, to adopt the eccentric orthography of its possessor, as a pictorial "goak." A glance at the whimsical prospectus which is placed in the hands of the visitor will prepare him for the kind of amusement to be expected. The humour therein contained does not severely tax the ingenuity of the reader; nor does the lecturer, when he employs a similar kind of agreeable badinage in his discourse, run any risk of wearying the listener's patience. The audience leave with an impression that the entertainment is singularly brief, and then wonder, perhaps, how they could have been so much diverted with such slight materials. No description of the matter which forms the subject of Mr. Artemus Ward's eccentric commentary would convey the faintest notion of the odd style in which it is delivered; and those who would learn how much depends on the art of telling droll stories must visit the Egyptian Hall to judge of the effect produced by the American humourist on his audience.

FALCONRY AT CHALONS.

IN a recent Number we gave some account of the sport of falconry as practised amongst the Moors in Algeria, and it would seem that this ancient pastime is now about to be revived in France, where at the camp of Chalons it has been followed with all the ardour of a newly-imported fashion.

The art of falconry, which was lost with many other things in the earthquake of the Revolution, was one of the robust amusements of the old nobility, and, as like all other equestrian exercises, it was the means of developing courage, vigour, and address, it became one of the prominent acquirements of a polite education. In order to follow the flight of the falcon it was necessary for the hunter to be a bold and alert horseman, ready to cross any sort of country that lay before him, and the hereditary landowner was compelled to keep a well-trained stud of horses, while the passion for hunting was one of the best preparations for providing the army with efficient cavalry. The fowling-piece gave the first blow to falconry, as the flight of the bullet was more rapid than the swoop of the ger-falcon or the hawk; but the Kings of France and their nobles preserved the traditional sport until the Revolution extinguished it. In order to raise its reputation, the office of Grand Falconer of France was instituted as a post of honour. The first who held it was Eustache de Vancourt, Seigneur de Viry, Grand Falconer to Charles VI.; and the last was M. de Forêt, Chamberlain to Louis XVI.

Under Louis XIV. the Royal amusement reached its culminating point and maintained a corps of attendants and sportsmen, whose horses were more numerous than those devoted to all other Royal sports put together. The Grand Falconer of that day was the Count de Maurel, of the King's Council, and Captain Governor of Beauvois. His authority was considerable, for he had full powers over the woods and domains where birds of prey could be preserved, and was the chief of all the large retinue engaged in providing for the Royal sport. The grand falconry consisted of nine flights of birds—two for kites, one for herons, two for crows or rooks, one for partridges, one for wild ducks, one for magpies, and one for hares. Beside these there were four flights for the King's chamber—the ordinary falconry of the Court for hawking all the year round—those of the officers of the army, and the great flight of the household, devoted especially to hunting the heron. Not only had the King his own special pages and attendants, but each flight was superintended by a captain and falcon-masters, as well as beaters and the men who held the dogs in leash.

The annual salary of the Grand Falconer was 4000f., and he was attended altogether by fifty gentlemen and fifty assistants, and kept 300 hawks. He licensed all the venders of hawks in France and received a tax upon every bird sold in the kingdom. He attended the King whenever his Majesty rode out on any state occasion. Edward III., according to Froissart, had with him in his army when he invaded France thirty falconers on horseback, who had charge of his hawks; and every day he either hunted or went to the river for the purpose of hawking. Ladies not only accompanied the gentlemen in pursuit of this diversion, but often practised it by themselves; and, if we may believe a writer in the thirteenth century, they even excelled the men in the knowledge and exercise of the art of falconry.

Hawking was forbidden to the clergy by the canons of the Church, but the prohibition was by no means sufficient to restrain them from the pursuit of this fashionable amusement, on which account, as well as for hunting, they were of course severely censured by the poets and moralists.

When the hawk was not flying at her game she was usually hoodwinked with a cap or hood provided for that purpose and fitted to her head; and this hood was worn abroad as well as at home. All hawks taken from "the fist" (the term used for carrying them on the hand) had straps of leather called *jesses* put upon their legs. The jesses were made long enough for the knots to appear between the middle and the little fingers of the hand that held them, so that the *lunes* or small thongs of leather might be fastened to them with two *tyrists* or rings, and the *lunes* were loosely wound round the little finger. It appears that sometimes the jesses were of silk. Lastly, the birds' legs were adorned with bells fastened with rings of leather, each leg having one; and the leathers to which the bells were attached were called *bewits*. To these bewits was added the *creance* or long thread by which the bird, in tutoring, was drawn back after she had been permitted to fly. This was called the reclaiming of the hawk. The bewits, we are told, were useful to keep the hawk from "winding when she bated"—that is, when she fluttered her wings to fly after her game.

The person who provided the hawk was furnished with gloves to prevent the talons from hurting his hand. In the inventories of apparel belonging to Henry VIII. such articles frequently occur. At Hampton Court in the jewel-house were "seven hawks' gloves, embroidered."

The revival of falconry is due to M. Pierre Pichot, an amateur passionately fond of hunting, and the originator of dog-shows in France. As a large extent of land is necessary to the sport, M. Pichot made his début in the great plain of Sologne, and afterwards in those around the camp at Chalons, where he has formed the acquaintance of M. Werlé, the Mayor of Rheims. Their falconry is composed of a score of birds, the greater part of them being hooded falcons, intended for high flying, for wild duck, storks, and herons; besides these there are ger-falcons, for the low flight, against the hare and partridge; and a couple of merlins, the smallest birds of prey, who pursue larks and sparrows. The equipage is commanded by an English falconer and two attendants. The uniform is in imitation of that of the *ancien régime*, the men wearing white felt hats with plumes, a green embroidered jerkin with scarlet collar, green breeches, and leather gaiters. The ladies are clad in green riding-habits, with gold buttons; and hats or caps, embellished with aigrettes. Our Engraving represents the scene at the launching of the falcon before the commencement of the hunt.

CONCERTS.

THE first performance given by the National Choral Society for the season 1886-7 took place on Tuesday evening. It had originally been announced that the tenor music in "Elijah"—the work selected for the occasion—would be sung by Mr. Leigh Wilson, whose name, however, was replaced in the advertisement two or three days ago by that of Mr. J. Kerr Gedge, a débutant—as far, at least, as Exeter Hall is concerned. At the last moment communications were received from M^{me}. Lemmens-Sherrington to the effect that she "had a sore throat and could not sing," and from Miss Fanny Armytage, setting forth that she would be "unable to sing, being confined to the house with sore throat." In fact, the winter musical season and the winter have for once begun simultaneously. Notwithstanding these changes in the distribution of the principal parts (we should have mentioned that M^{me}. Sherrington was replaced by M^{me}. Suchet-Champion and Miss Armytage by Miss Amy Sheridan), the execution was, on the whole, highly creditable to the members of the society and to Mr. Martin, the conductor. The magnificent chorus, "Thanks be to God," was admirably given; and the same may be said of the magnificent chain of choruses beginning with "Baal, we cry to thee." Of the other remarkable pieces, those which produced the most effect were the unaccompanied trio, "Lift thine eyes," sung by M^{me}. Suchet-Champion, Miss Amy Sheridan, and Miss Lucy Franklin; "Is not His word like fire?" and "It is enough," which Mr. Santley, who was in excellent voice, rendered to perfection; and "Oh! rest in the Lord," in which Miss Franklin's beautiful voice was heard to great advantage, and which was enthusiastically encored. The new tenor did not make much of the song, "Then shall the righteous." He has a good voice; but in the music assigned to him seemed a little overweighted.

The first performance for the season of the Sacred Harmonic Society took place yesterday (Friday) evening.

THE ALHAMBRA.—Several important improvements have just been effected in the construction of this popular place of amusement. The lobbies, staircases, and saloons in front of the building have been entirely reconstructed with the view of providing for the increased safety and comfort of the public. In addition to the great central entrance, two new side entrances, right and left of the centre, have been made, each leading into a spacious crush-room, elegantly furnished. From these crush-rooms on the ground floor spring two new and noble fireproof staircases leading to a large lobby on the level of the reserved seats, just below the first balcony. These staircases formerly descended into the pit of the house—an objectionable arrangement. On this lobby is fixed one of the glove bazaars. The staircases are continued from this lobby right and left, leading to the first balcony. At the back of this balcony a new saloon, 100 ft. long, has been erected, which differs from theatrical saloons generally in this respect, that from one half—the centre half—of its promenade, a splendid view of the stage can be obtained. The new supper-room on the ground floor has been elaborately decorated; the lavatory arrangements above and below ground have been perfected; the heavy chandelier in the dome has been removed, and that part of the building is now lighted by a graceful ring of arabesque lights and a small but effective central light. The new entrances and exits enable an audience of 4000 to leave in one minute.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.—It is stated that representations have been made to the Metropolitan Board of Works urging upon the engineer increased activity in the completion of the Thames embankment of the northern side of the river. A large portion of the river front is already uncovered, and considerable progress has been made with the landing-stages and piers. The Temple pier and landing-stage will be of the most imposing character, and will form one of the principal features of the undertaking. It will be 470 ft. in length, and the landing and pier will project into the river a distance of 32 ft. from the front of the main wall, and will be approached by handsome flights of granite steps. The landing-stages are constructed to rise and fall with the tides, moving up and down in massive recesses of granite. The portion of the embankment between Temple-gardens and Blackfriars Bridge has not yet been commenced. It is a short section of 855 ft. in length; and, unlike the other portions of the works, will be constructed on arches, so as to admit of barges and lighters passing from the river to the wharf of the gasworks. There are thirteen arches, elliptical in form and of various spans, to accommodate the rising gradient of the roadway. The largest of these arches will be 80 ft. span. The "subway" is to be carried beneath the centre of the roadway, and through the arches of the viaduct, supported by sub-arches of granite, springing from the same piers as the main arches. The internal dimensions of this subway are to be 7 ft. 6 in. in height and 9 ft. in width. The roadway over this portion will be carried by brick segmental arches. The embankment passes by an easy curve to the level of Bridge-street, Blackfriars, where the line of roadway will be continued by the new street to the Mansion House.

A ROMANCE IN REAL LIFE.—The following romance of the aristocracy appears in one of the Dublin papers:—"One of those cases which have afforded Sir Bernard Burke material for some of his deeply-interesting works, in which the vicissitudes of noble houses are set forth, has recently been brought to light by certain proceedings in Capel-street Police Office. On the 19th of October, a young lad, aged about sixteen, was brought up before Mr. J. C. O'Donel, charged with having stolen from Mr. Alfred, photographer, a mahogany glass case, containing a number of photographs. The prisoner, who gave his name as Emanuel Moore, had been employed by Mr. Nelson as porter, and while in his employment had taken away the articles and sold them. So far there is nothing more in the case than what occurs in the daily record of crime in all our police offices; but subsequent inquiries led to a revelation at once strange and painful, if young Moore's statements be true. As an explanation of his committing the offence, he stated that his father, who is an Irish Baronet of one of the oldest creations, had been reduced to a condition of such abject poverty as to be now under the necessity of selling matches in the streets of Dublin to obtain a wretched subsistence, and that he had sold the articles which he had stolen to furnish him with some of the ordinary necessities of life. The criminal—if such he can be called—was, in accordance with the law which he had violated, not the less that the doing so was an act of filial duty, sentenced to two months' imprisonment, which he is now undergoing. The mother of the unfortunate lad was sister to an Irishman who for many years sat in Parliament for an English seat, and who at one time was a great popular leader of the English working classes. We understand that an effort is being made to obtain a commutation of young Moore's sentence, and to provide for his father and himself some employment which will release them from actual pauperism."

THE MURDERS IN NEW ZEALAND.—In the New Zealand papers received by the last mail we find the termination of the Maungatapu murders trial. The Judge occupied seven hours in summing up the evidence. The jury retired about half-past four o'clock, and, after an hour's deliberation, returned a verdict of "Guilty" against all three prisoners. There was a dead silence in court. The Judge asked the prisoners separately if they had anything to say, on any point of law, why sentence of death should not be passed upon them. Kelly abjectly appealed to be allowed to explain the evidence; and, while repeating that appeal, he protested that he was innocent, and that the Judge had not rightly charged the jury. He proceeded to discuss the evidence; when seeing, probably, that all that was independent went to corroborate Sullivan's statement, he declared that this was so because Sullivan knew all that had occurred. The Judge's interruptions were ineffectual to silence Kelly, and, after some altercation had been tolerated, he recommended his appeals, and was ordered to stop. Kelly: "Won't you allow me to speak?" The Judge: "Not longer. Kelly: Oh! that's too bad. Let me speak. Nobody will be sorry for my death. I leave no one. Still, I ought not to die wrongly. The Judge then addressed the prisoners separately, and passed sentence of death on them severally. After sentence was passed, Burgess said, "I accept the sentence." He then bowed, and said again, with humility, "I accept the sentence." Kelly, abjectly overpowered, said nothing. Levy said, "I am happy to inform you that, in my own mind, and by the God I worship, I leave this bar an innocent man." The Judge replied that he had no right to say so. Such a statement made no impression on him, nor ought it to do on the jury or the public.

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